

Hafa Adai!

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Another tragedy at Forbidden

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

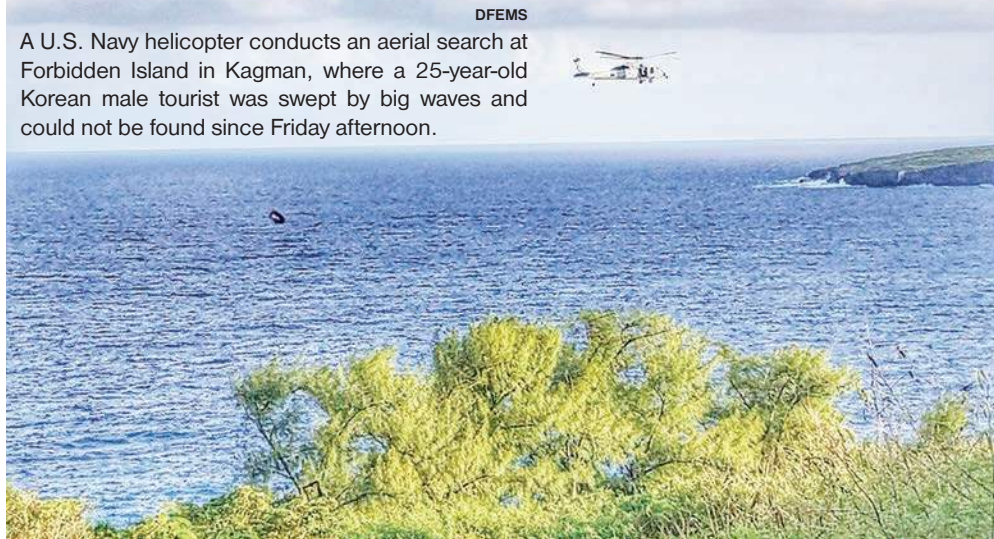
Search and rescue teams backed by a U.S. Navy helicopter failed to locate yesterday a 25-year-old male Korean tourist who was swept by a wave at Forbidden Island in Kagman as he was swimming with three companions Friday afternoon.

» **Korean tourist missing after being swept by waves**

The incident happened after another Korean tourist, a woman, drowned at Forbidden Island last Jan. 13, while her husband was swept to the open ocean and could not be found.

Forbidden Island is an isolated rock formation at the northeastern tip of Laulau Bay. Many people have died
See TRAGEDY on Page 4

DFEMS
A U.S. Navy helicopter conducts an aerial search at Forbidden Island in Kagman, where a 25-year-old Korean male tourist was swept by big waves and could not be found since Friday afternoon.



Xu wins in Guam music competition

By **KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA**
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REPORTER

Saipan Yonsei Academy's Hans Xu competed in this year's Guam Young Artists Competition at the University of Guam and placed first overall.

Xu, an 11-year-old pianist who studies at the Saipan Yonsei Academy, competed in this year's Young Artist Competition and won first place overall (elementary, junior, and

senior division). Xu's winning piece was *Scherzo E Minor Op 16 No. 2*.

"This piece was very challenging because it required me to play very fast, which I was not used to. After learning the piece, I did find some parts I enjoy playing, such as the very powerful and strong middle and the light ending.

"This piece also required a skill which I did not have before, playing with an intense

See XU on Page 4

January arrivals dip

According to the Marianas Visitors Authority, arrivals to the CNMI dipped to 55,429 in January 2018, compared to 63,346 visitors received in January 2017

The decline is due to a variety of factors outside and within the Marianas, according to MVA managing director Christopher A. Concepcion.

See JANUARY on Page 4

Celine Cabrera is 2018 Miss Marianas

By **KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA**
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REPORTER

Celine Concepcion Cabrera was crowned the 2018 Miss

Marianas at the annual pageant last Saturday at the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan.

Peachy Quitugua, the 2017 Miss Marianas, hand-

ed over her crown to the new queen, Cabrera, who went head-to-head for the crown and title against sev-
See CELINE on Page 4



Miss Marianas contestant Celine Concepcion Cabrera is crowned 2018 Miss Marianas during the 2018 Miss Marianas pageant last Saturday at the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan.

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KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA

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NATION

Survivors of a mass shooting at a Florida high school are targeting the NRA.

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ASIA

A Lebanese man suspected in the death of a Filipina maid has been arrested.

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LIFE & STYLE

The Academy Awards seem like formality when it comes to Alison Janney's performance in "I, Tonya."

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Local

CHCC outpatient pharmacy now accepting Medicare

Over a month after the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. opened its new pharmacy, it is now accepting Medicare again.

In a statement, it said they now accept Medicare Part D, the Medicare prescription drug benefit, which serves as

an optional service for Medicare beneficiaries.

Currently, the CHCC Pharmacy does not accept Tricare, VA, or Blue Cross Blue Shield but does accept all local insurances, including Aetna and Medicaid.

CHCC continues to expand

and, according to CHCC CEO Esther Muña. Prescription orders can be placed over the phone through an automated system by calling (670) 236-8798. Orders can be placed anytime, including after the pharmacy's business hours.

When calling the CHCC pharmacy number, patients will be prompted with the following options:

■ Dial 1 – to place an order for a refill (you must have your prescription number available)

■ Dial 2 – for doctors call-

ing to authorize prescriptions

■ Dial 3 – for pharmacy hours and location

■ Press 4 – to confirm your prescription is ready for pick-up

■ Press 0 – to speak to a member of the pharmacy staff

The CHCC Pharmacy is located on the main building of CHCC, next to the blood laboratory. The hours of operations are Monday through Friday from 8am to 6pm and weekends and holidays from 8am to 5pm. *(Bea Cabrera)*

March is Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month



A proclamation designating March as Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month was signed Thursday last week at the Office of the Governor. Here, proclamation supporters pose for a photo at the Office of the Governor's conference room.

KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
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REPORTER

Colorectal cancer is one of the

top five most diagnosed cancers in the CNMI, so March has been designated to spreading awareness on how this

disease can be prevented and how it can be treated.

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres proclaimed March National

Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month in a proclamation signing last Thursday.

Torres said the procla-

mation is important because it acknowledges that colorectal cancer exists in the CNMI and it urges community members to support the Commonwealth Cancer Association's cause.

According to the proclamation, it is important to educate oneself on the signs and symptoms of colorectal cancer, and to be aware that risk factors increase after the age of 50.

Colorectal cancer is the third most commonly diag-

nosed cancer and the second most common cause of cancer deaths for men and women in the United States.

The vast majority of colon cancer deaths can be prevented through proper screening, early detection and treatment. The survival rate of individuals who have early stage colorectal cancer is 90 percent but goes down to only 10 percent after it has spread to other organs.

In support of the fight against colon cancer, the CCA will be hosting a health walk throughout March beginning on March 2 until the last Friday of the month.

CCA will also host a survivor's support group meeting at the Hyatt Regency Saipan on March 8 starting at 5:30pm.

The highlight of the month will be the swim/bike/run/relay race event that will be held on March 17. Details to follow.

According to CCA executive director Juan Lizama Babauta, he is also working on getting an early screening program for colorectal cancer this March because early diagnosis is key.

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CHCC: No measles outbreak in the CNMI

By BEA CABRERA

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REPORTER

An ongoing measles outbreak in the southern part of the Philippines has the CNMI Division of Public Health on full alert, letting the public know of this concern. Luckily for

the CNMI, there has been no report of a measles outbreak in the CNMI to date.

Many residents in the CNMI are of Filipino descent and frequently travel to and from the Philippines and this includes CW-1 workers and tourists.

In a press release, the

Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. said it continues to encourage the community to stay up-to-date with all required vaccinations.

Children should receive their first dose of the measles vaccine, called MMR (measles, mumps, rubella), at 12-15

months old and a second dose of MMR at 4-6 years old. The vaccine is highly effective in preventing measles.

The Department of Health, Regional Epidemiology Surveillance Unit in the Philippines reported that, as of Jan. 29, 2018, there were 317 sus-

pected cases of measles in the country. Fourteen cases from Jan. 1, 2017, to Jan. 19, 2018, were recorded as suspected measles-related deaths.

It added that most of the cases reported last year increased in November and December 2017.

The Department of Public Health and Social Services in Guam also warned the public last week of the measles outbreak in the Philippines.

According to Immunization program manager Jeremy Sasamoto of the Communicable Disease Bureau of the Division of Public Health, measles is a disease prevalent in the Asia Pacific region.

"Measles prevention... is one of the many reasons why parents should ensure their children are vaccinated on time," he said. "A disease anywhere is a threat everywhere and it only takes one person to bring measles and other dangerous communicable diseases into the CNMI."

The vaccination program of the CNMI Division of Public Health Immunization Program has vaccinated over 1,000 children in the CNMI in both public and private schools.

In an earlier interview, Sasamoto said the vaccination program is based on Public Law 6-10, which requires all children to be up-to-date with required immunizations prior to enrollment in any school or daycare/childcare facility in the CNMI.

"These vaccinations include the MMR vaccine," Sasamoto said. "One person on a plane with measles can sneeze or cough and spread the disease

to everyone on that plane and, in turn, they can spread that disease to people working in the airport, hotels, stores, etc., then they bring it home, then their kids bring it to schools, etc. It only takes one person to do all of this and we're doing all we can to ensure our community is protected."

CHCC asks the public that if they are traveling abroad and have not received the measles vaccination, the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention recommends that children 12 months or older and adolescents receive two doses of MMR 28 days apart. If traveling with an infant 6-11 months old, they will need one dose before traveling.

Immunization records can be obtained from the immunization program at CHCC.

The initial symptoms of measles, which usually appear 10-12 days after infection, includes high fever (101°F or higher), runny nose, bloodshot eyes, and tiny white spots on the inside of the mouth.

After several days, a rash erupts, usually on the face and upper neck. Over about three days, the rash spreads, eventually reaching the hands and feet. The rash lasts for five to six days, and then fades.

CHCC also raised the concern that if one is a returning traveler from the Philippines and develop both a fever and rash, to see a medical provider immediately.

For more information, contact the immunization program at (670) 236-8745 or 236-8709/83/81 or ask your provider.

Ex-DFW manager pleads guilty to handgun possession, DUI

A former Division of Fish and Wildlife manager who was arrested last year after he was allegedly found drunk when his car rear-ended another vehicle on Saipan and was then found with a handgun and ammunition pleaded guilty last week.

Roque Arriola Santos, 65, pleaded guilty to unlawful possession of a firearm with an obliterated serial number and driving while under the influence of alcohol, with a blood alcohol concentration greater than the allowed limit of .08 percent.

Superior Court Associate Judge Kenneth L. Govendo set Santos' sentencing for March 26, 2018. Under the plea deal, Santos will be sen-

tenced to prison between zero and one year. He will then be placed on supervised probation for five years.

He will still be allowed to travel, subject to approval by the Office of Adult Probation, provided that he pays all court costs, fines and fees, and complete community work service prior to his departure.

According to the plea agreement, Santos was found in possession of a black Ruger P85 9mm handgun with an obliterated or changed serial number on Feb. 3, 2017.

Santos was also found driving a vehicle with a BAC of 0.174 percent.

In an interview with police last Feb. 4, 2017, Santos

claimed finding the handgun and its holster beneath a tree while doing a routine check at the Marina Cove.

Santos said he then proceeded to Johnny's Bar in Garapan and after having seven beers, he decided to head back to Marina Cove to sleep.

Two police officers were at a stop at the Navy Hill traffic light on Feb. 3, 2017, when they saw the vehicle being driven by Santos swerve off the main road while heading north on Chalan Pale Arnold Road. This prompted the officers to chase the car, which then rear-ended a Toyota 4 Runner that was also heading north.

One officer checked Santos'

car and saw that its air bag was deployed and the lone occupant, Santos, kept complaining of chest pain.

While waiting for medics to arrive, the officer noticed Santos reach for something on the front passenger seat. The officer then saw the handgun, which was loaded. A holster containing bullets was also found in the car.

Police said that Santos, who smelled of alcohol, was uncooperative. DPS records show that Santos is not a valid registered firearms carrier.

Joaquin Torres is counsel for Santos. Assistant attorney general Robert Glass Jr. appeared for the government. **(Ferdie de la Torre)**

PSS embraces 21st century classroom learning

By BEA CABRERA

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REPORTER

The Public School System finally got on board last Friday on its first Digital Learning Day, which has been celebrated in the U.S. mainland since 2012.

The occasion gives PSS a chance to place importance on technology as an aid in shaping CNMI students to be global citizens that identifies with the world community and whose actions contribute to building this community's values and practices.

According to PSS Instructional Technology director Bobby Cruz, technology is here to stay.

"Gone are the days that we see technology as something unknown and intimidating to us," he said. "Technology [is] ever changing, advancing and improving... because people continue to learn and grow and learn and go some more."

He said that technology is a partner for learning and development once one knows the proper way to use it to make



The awarding ceremony of the 2018 Digital Learning Day was held last Friday at the BOE office in Capitol Hill. The student level winners are Tomaica Blas from William S. Reyes Elementary School, Jaden Pangelinan from William S. Reyes School, Sky Gusteen Palacios from Francisco M. Sablan Elementary School, Mary Heather Jingco from Dr. Rita H. Inos Sr. High school and Educator level winner Riya Nathrani 3rd grade teacher from William S. Reyes Elementary School. They are surrounded by PSS BOE commissioner Glen Muna, board member Herman Atalig, Director of Instructional Technology Bobby Cruz, Distance Education Program Coordinator Lorraine Catienza.

BEA CABRERA

people better, using the right tools and guidance.

In the run-up to Friday, PSS hosted a competition—essays, poems, and multi-media presentation—among students and teachers to showcase the importance of technology in learning and teaching.

Five winners were chosen out of the 300 students and educators who participated.: Tomaica Blas 2nd grade, William S. Reyes Elementary School; Jaden Pangelinan, 4th grade,

William S. Reyes Elementary School; Sky Gusteen Palacios, 6th grade, Francisco M. Sablan Middle School; Mary Heather Jingco, 12 grade, Dr. Rita H. Inos Jr. Sr. High School; and Riya Nathrani, 3rd grade teacher, William S. Reyes Elementary School.

"It is truly something to hear from the younger generation their vision of 21st century teaching and learning, to life on our home islands. ... Their vision will undoubt-

edly help make changes for the better," Cruz said.

Education Commissioner Glen Muña said that PSS has been improving its system for uninterrupted online education.

"We recently released a total of 1,044 iPads to schools and we plan to add more units in the future. We are currently adding WiFi and direct lines to schools," he said. "This is one of the reasons why the supplemental budget and federal grants are important for us."

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XU

From Page 1

feeling but also keeping my entire body relaxed," he said.

According to Saipan Yonsei Academy director Ji Hye Yun, Xu played calmly and passionately.

The Guam Symphony Society organized the Guam Young Artists Competition at the University of Guam. Held on Jan. 24, 2018, it is one of the highest level musical competitions in Guam. Many from Saipan and Guam competed this year.

The first round of competitions was held last Jan. 24 and the finals was held the following day, Jan. 25, for the top five students from each division (elementary, junior, and senior).

A winners' concert was held last Feb. 11 at the St. John's Chapel, which allowed only the top three winners overall to perform.

Yun said many people showed interest in the performance and the Guam broadcasting system was there to record the wonder-

ful performance. The winners received a plaque, cash reward, and prizes.

Xu said he is most thankful for his instructor and his parents.

"I want to thank my teacher, Mrs. Yun, for teaching me the piece, how to master it and how enjoy the music. I want to thank my parents

for telling me that if I want to play well, I need to practice," he said.

Xu was not expecting to win, especially since it was his first year competing. "To win on my first year was a huge surprise because I did not know what to expect from the judges, and I heard some of the other musicians who played were really good," he said.

Xu hopes to one day be able to play a range of pieces from other classical composers.

"When I get older I would love to learn a wide variety of pieces such as Beethoven and Chopin. This year's experience showed me how much time and practice it takes to master just one piece. Overall this was an amazing experience for me."

According to Yun, Xu is very diligent, hard-working, possesses a good musical touch, and is very good at showing emotion through his playing.

"When I first met Hans... he had many bad habits while playing the piano. Fortunately, he tried his best to fix them and follow all my teachings. ...Hans is very consistent and never had a relapse while playing and learning the piano, which makes me look forward to the future of his musical life. My lessons with Hans is always fun and worth looking forward to," she said.

Kate Ishida also represented the CNMI in the competition through her violin. Ishida placed third in the senior division.



Saipan Yonsei Academy's Hans Xu, second from left, placed first overall at this year's Guam Young Artists Competition at the University of Guam.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

CELINE

From Page 1

en other young women.

Cabrera is a 23-year-old operations manager at the company Dr. Safety Consultant. She is also working on a bachelor's degree in Education at the Northern Marianas College.

In an interview after the pageant, an exuberant Cabrera could not believe that she actually won, but she said she is excited for the journey ahead as Miss Marianas and hopes that, along the way, she can achieve her goal of empowering the women of the CNMI and the youth.

Cabrera is most thankful for the support of her family, her friends, and all the people who believed in her from the start to finish.

Cabrera said that the entire experience was great and her favorite memory was a sleepover with the other candidates about a month before the pageant. That was when Cabrera said she really got to know her fellow candidates and established a sister-like bond with them.

Cabrera said she has always wanted to join the competition since she was a girl and she put to play all the tips she picked up along the journey to pageant night last Saturday and it paid off because it led to

her coronation.

She won \$1,000 for her Miss Marianas win and a free use of a 2018 Hyundai Elantra, courtesy of Triple J Motors.

Aside from the title of Miss Marianas, Cabrera also won Best in Swimsuit, Best in Evening Wear, and Best in National Costume, with a "totot"-inspired costume.

The prestigious Stellar Star award was also awarded to Cabrera for her enthusiasm, dedication, commitment, and hard work.

Coming in as first runner-up was Chloe Salvosa. Salvosa was awarded the first runner-up trophy and a cash prize of \$800 and was also voted Miss

Photogenic by the media.

Completing the top three was Leisha Mendiola Deleon Guerrero. Deleon Guerrero was awarded the second runner-up trophy with a cash prize of \$400 and numerous gifts from various Stellar Marianas sponsors.

Additional awards distributed during the pageant was the Miss Friendship award and the Tresemme Best Hair Award. Both awards were given to Jaiden McPhetres Santos.

The remaining 2018 Miss Marianas 2018 contestants who competed for the crown were Eden Connor, Cris Nhoel Obaldo, Kaysha Aguon Cruz, and Maricris Zapanta.

JANUARY

From Page 1

"Lunar New Year fell in February this year compared to January in 2017, moving that large block of holiday travel out of January to February. Also, we continue to feel the effects of Eastar Jet ceasing flights from Korea in October 2016," said Concepcion. "We don't necessarily view this slight decrease as a bad thing. Arrivals have grown tremendously the past two years, and now they've begun to stabilize, which gives everyone the opportunity to enhance their product, reinvest in our destination, and have our infrastructure catch up with demand. Internally, the MVA is working with a reduced budget this fiscal year, resulting in fewer opportunities to market the islands and incentivize travel. However, we continue to work strategically with the funding we have been allotted."

Arrivals from Korea fell 7 percent to 28,750 visitors, al-

though the country retained its position as the top performing source market.

The main reason of the decrease is the suspension of Incheon-Saipan service by Eastar Jet. Asiana Airlines, Jeju Air, Jin Air, and T'way Air provide Incheon-Saipan flight services. T'way Air increased to daily services beginning on Dec. 7, 2017, while Jeju Air added daily Busan-Saipan flight services beginning on Dec. 15, 2017, adding a combined 49,140 seats to the Marianas annually.

Arrivals from China dropped 23 percent compared to January 2017 to 19,572 visitors. In addition to Lunar New Year falling in February this year compared to January last year, arrivals from China have been dampened by the cessation of Dynamic Airway charter flight service after the summer 2017 holiday. However, visitor arrivals from China to the Marianas are expected to increase in the coming months due to the lower rate of the U.S. dollar, as well as recent volcanic eruption in Bali and domes-

tic conflict in Maldives, both competing beach destinations.

Arrivals from Japan were 8 percent lower than January 2017 at 3,716 visitors, in part due to Delta Air Lines' cancellation of six flights during the month for yield management, a strategy to maximize profits based on anticipated consumer demand. Delta has also announced it will discontinue its Tokyo Narita-Saipan daily flight in early May 2018. The MVA is current in confidential negotiations with several airlines to pick up the route or expand to other cities in the source market and will be meeting with key travel trade partners and travel media next week in Narita, Osaka, and Nagoya.

Economic highlights

South Korea's ranking in the global export market improved from last year and is now ranked sixth, according to Hyundai Research Institute.

South Korean's investment in overseas stocks for the full year could hit the highest mark since 2007 when comparable

investment was worth \$52.6 billion. The average US dollar/won exchange rate in January was 1,064.29 won, a slight decrease from the previous rate of 1,107.12 won in December 2017.

In China, short-distance outbound travel is still the main choice of travelers. A family holiday in warm, comfortable, relaxing islands is more popular, and the Marianas has moved into the top 10 outbound island destinations. The *yuan* continues a slow steady fluctuation cycle against the U.S. dollar, but core travel segments remain unaffected.

Japan's economy posted its longest continuous expansion since the 1980s boom as fourth quarter growth was boosted by consumer spending and moved Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's revival plan another step closer to vanquishing decades of stagnation. Monthly average rate for U.S. dollar to Japanese yen exchange in January 2018 was 111.07 compared to 112.93 in December 2017. (MVA)

TRAGEDY

From Page 1

in the area due to drowning in the past few years. Most of the victims were never recovered.

Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services spokesman Derek Gersonde said DFEMS received the 911 call about a missing person on Friday at 3:20pm.

Gersonde said the tourist was pulled by waves out to open water.

The tourist was with three other companions. The victim was last seen swimming with one of his companions when a wave pulled him to open water.

Department of Public Safety and Commonwealth Ports Authority boats searched in the water, in coordination with the U.S. Coast Guard, while DFEMS Search and Rescue Unit combed the cliffline and shoreline toward Laulau Bay. A Navy helicopter aided the team over the weekend.

DPS spokesman Jacqueline Rae Shepard said that responding police officers spoke with a witness at the scene Friday, who disclosed that he, along with three other friends, had gone down to the beach to take pictures.

Shepard said the victim left the shore to take pictures on the rocks leading to the island, when a large wave came in and knocked him down.

Witnesses said they did not immediately see that the victim was in danger until a second wave came and took him further out.

The victim was able to hold on to a rock, but his friends failed to reach him before a third wave pulled him under and out of sight.

The DPS Boating Safety launched its *Impact* and *Jet* boat at 3:42pm and began sweeping searches at the scene and along the coast.

At 5:39pm, the U.S. Coast

Guard joined the search and launched a helicopter for an aerial search.

The search was called off at 6pm on Friday and resumed on Saturday and yesterday. The victim was not found. It is not clear if the search will resume today, Monday.

The CNMI Emergency Operations Center State Warning Point had issued a high surf advisory last Feb. 21, warning of the risk of rip currents along north facing reefs.

The advisory warned the public to avoid venturing near reefs and exposed beaches, especially those facing north, as rip currents would be life-threatening.

"If you become caught in a rip current, remain calm and swim parallel to shore and back toward the beach when possible. Do not attempt to swim directly against a rip current," the advisory stated.

The 34-year-old Korean man who went missing after swimming with his wife in the waters off Forbidden Island last Jan. 13 was also not found.

The body of the Korean man's wife was found that day at around 1:32pm near the Laolao Bay Golf & Resort clubhouse cliffline. She was taken to the hospital, but was pronounced dead by a doctor at 2:40pm that same day.

Police said a witness who reported the incident said the tourist couple went underwater and failed to resurface.

On Jan. 2, 2015, a 6-year-old girl reportedly drowned, while a 16-year-old student also died when he jumped into the water in an attempt to rescue the girl and her sister after they and three others encountered rough waters and waves inside a cave at Forbidden Island.

That 2015 incident happened as the death of four Korean students who drowned at the same cave in March 2007 was still fresh in the minds of the families and people of the island.

MMAC teams begin fundraising efforts

With the Marianas March Against Cancer scheduled for May 11-12, 2018, at the Hopwood Middle School, teams have already started raising funds to support the Commonwealth Cancer Association's signature event.

"This year, many of our teams have already started their fundraising efforts early to support the mission of this great event. Most of our teams from last year have reaffirmed their commitment to this worthy cause, and we are excited to see the innova-

tive ideas our teams come up with to raise funds for our community's fight against cancer," said MMAC 2018 Team Recruitment chair Catherine Attao-Toves.

This month, Team Tan Holdings/Tan Siu Lin Foundation held a very successful JP Glow Run on Friday, Feb. 2 with over 1,500 people brightening up the Beach Road Pathway from the Garapan Fishing Base to Quartermaster Road. The event is held in honor of John "JP" Pangelinan, a former publisher of

the *Saipan Tribune*, and celebrated its 10th anniversary this year. The event raised \$8,000 for MMAC.

Also celebrating its 10-year anniversary, Team Pacific Islands Club held its annual PIC Duck Race for Cancer with 2,490 ducks racing across the PIC Lazy River on Saturday, Feb. 10. Proceeds from the event will benefit MMAC.

"Our teams are starting early and working hard to support our community's goal of supporting our loved ones facing cancer. Over the last two

months, you can really feel members of our community rallying behind this cause and supporting each other. This is what MMAC is all about," said MMAC 2018 Committee co-chair Carline Sablan.

Several teams currently have ongoing fundraising efforts.

Team Northern Mariana Islands Football Association, in collaboration with Shirley's Coffee Shop, will be donating 10 cents for every iced tea sold in the restaurant's Susupe and Garapan locations. Team Triple J will be donating \$25

for every vehicle sold.

"We are very excited to have our returning and longstanding teams back again. Every year, we aim to increase the number of teams participating. This year, we are pleased to announce that the CNMI Public School System central office will be actively involved to join the rest of our community partners who have contributed significantly to this great cause over the years," said MMAC 2018 Committee co-chair Bobby Cruz.

"March and April are

months filled with team events and fundraisers, and we highly encourage our community to support our teams. We will be providing updates through CCA on social media and in the press about our team events. It is also never too late to sign up or join a team. At the end of the day, it is our entire community working together toward a common goal of supporting our loved ones and fighting cancer in our islands," Attao-Toves added.

For more information or to sign up your team for the 2018 Marianas March Against Cancer, email mmacteams@gmail.com. (**MMAC**)



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Facebook 

Triple J molds students to be future-ready

By BEA CABRERA

bea_cabrera@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Raising funds for the 2018 Marianas March Against Cancer and giving students a head start with their professional lives are why Triple J Saipan is partnering up with Chacha Oceanview Middle School.

"This is our future workforce and we are partnering with them to raise funds for a good cause. This is our second time to work with [these] students," said Maria Valentina Haberman of Triple J marketing.

Triple J also wants to establish a relationship with the school. "We want the partnership to go a long way and we want to let the students know what opportunities are out there on Saipan," Haberman said.



Maria Valentina Haberman, Don Castro, and Great Harvest bakers and staff pose with Chacha Oceanview Middle School students.

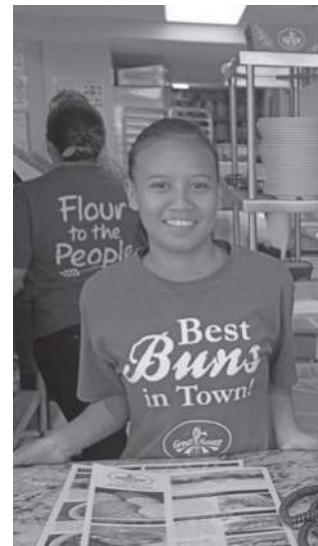
man said.

Eleven students from Chacha Oceanview, all members

of the school's culinary club, visited Triple J's bakery Great Harvest in Chalan Piao last

Thursday and met the shop's manager, chef, bakers, cashier, and staff to look at how it was like to work in a bakery.

"We want them to realize that this could be a profession for them some day,"



Haberman said. "We want to expose the students to one of the local companies on island and know more about Great Harvest such as the natural ingredients that we use, the service that we provide and we hope that they will take that inspiration once they

BEA CABRERA

Marianas High School senior student Katherine Angeles has been working at Great Harvest for almost a year now. "I am gaining a lot of experience while working here. I started as a baker and now I moved to being a cashier. I encourage other students to take up a job while in school because the experience is worthwhile and it helps you really think about what career to pursue in the future," she said.

step into the profession."


School principal Martha Quinto accompanied the students. "We are happy to be invited by Triple J to come here to raise funds for MMAC 2018 and give the children a first-hand experience of how management and operations are done," she said.

"The students are in middle school now and, if this is something that they want to pursue, this is a good opportunity to see the how the whole process works... It is both an eye-opener and a good motivation for our students," she added.


Great Harvest chef Don Castro showed the students around and taught them how to bake cookies that they could sell to raise funds.

"I was born and raised here and I always tell the young ones to aim to finish school, aim for a higher education, and do not see working as a burden but a way to be better in life... Moving forward, passion has to be there because if its there, it is limitless," he said.

"Find a passion and turn it into a career. It could be cooking, painting, or anything. If you love what you do and if you think you can make a career out of it, then by all means follow it," he added.



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION
P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514
Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp • Website: http://www.nmhc.gov.net



**NOTICE OF FUNDING AVAILABILITY
OF
COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT FUNDS
FOR PROGRAM YEAR 2018**

THIS ADVERTISEMENT IS PAID FOR BY NMHC WITH CPD FUNDS.

The Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, through the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) is announcing the availability of an **estimated \$1,264,412.00** in Community Planning and Development (CPD) funds available from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. NMHC anticipates receiving an estimated amount of \$902,206.00 in Community Development Block Grants (CDBG); \$293,829.00 in Home Investment Partnerships (HOME); and, \$68,377.00 in Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funds for Program Year (PY) 2018.

The CDBG funds, authorized under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, may be used for a wide range of community development activities to revitalize neighborhoods, provide affordable housing, expand economic opportunities, and improve community facilities and services. However, use of these funds must meet at least one of the national objectives which include: 1) to benefit low and moderate-income families; 2) to eliminate slum or blight conditions; or 3) to meet other urgent community development needs.

The CDBG program requires a grant recipient to certify that it will minimize displacement of persons as a result of activities assisted with CDBG funds. The CNMI government does not plan on undertaking any activity which will cause displacement of person. In the event of any unforeseen displacement resulting from any CDBG funded activity, the CNMI government will comply with the requirements of the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970, its implementing regulation and applicable local law.

HOME funds may be used to create affordable housing through financing assistance, site acquisition or improvement, and rehabilitating existing residential dwellings as well as providing funds for new construction or purchase of a single family residential dwelling. Use of HOME funds must benefit low-income families.

ESG funds may be used to rehabilitate or convert to buildings into homeless shelters and for shelter operating expenses, supportive services and homeless prevention **and rapid re-housing** activities. Use of ESG funds must benefit the homeless.

Applications for the use of CPD funds are available for pick up at the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) located in Garapan, Saipan; San Jose Village, Tinian; and, Songsong Village, Rota, beginning January 03, 2018.

You may also obtain the application online at www.nmhc.gov.net in the section titled "Public Notice/Announcement" subsection "Community Planning Development"

Applications must be submitted to the NMHC Offices in Garapan, Saipan (Saipan Residents); San Jose, Tinian (Tinian Residents); and, Songsong Village, Rota (Rota Residents) by **April 06, 2018, no later than 4:30 p.m.** Applications submitted after April 06, 2018, will not be accepted.

A briefing will be conducted for interested applicants and for those applicants who have picked up an application for the use of CPD funds. The briefing will address the program requirements and regulations concerning the usage of CPD funds.

The schedules for briefing are as follows:

February 07, 2018, 6:00 p.m. for the island of Saipan
February 08, 2018, 6:00 p.m. for the island of Tinian
February 09, 2018, 6:00 p.m. for the island of Rota

We are encouraging all non-profit, for profit, and government service providers who are providing services to people with disabilities, homeless individuals, and emergency shelter administrators and operators to attend this briefing.

For residents living on the island of Saipan, the briefing will be held at the NMHC Office in Garapan; Residents living on the island of Tinian, the briefing will be held at the NMHC Office in San Jose Village; and Residents living on the island of Rota, the briefing will be held at the Rota Mayor's Office Conference Room in Tatachog.

Accommodations for disabled individuals or other non-English speaking individuals who wish to attend the briefing are available upon request by giving at least 24 hours notice prior to the meeting so that such needs can be arranged and provided. Additional inquiries, concerning the CPD program, may be directed to Ms. Zenie P. Mafnas, Deputy Corporate Director or Mr. Jacob Muna, Planner/Environmental Officer at 234-6866 or 234-7689.

/s/ Jesse S. Palacios
Corporate Director



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION
P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514
Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp
Website: http://www.nmhc.gov.net



INVITATION FOR BID

(This ad is paid for by NMHC with HUD funds.)

BID SUBMISSION DATE: Tuesday, March 20, 2018
TIME: 10:00 AM

NMHC IFB 2018-002

"Ground Maintenance Services for NMHC's Properties in Tinian"

Proposal packets will be available on February 20, 2018, at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan or the Tinian Field Office in San Jose, during regular working hours (7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) Monday thru Friday except CNMI holidays.

The provisions of the CNMI Procurement regulations, NMIAC 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 Prohibiting Gratuities, Kickbacks and Contingent Fees shall apply.

A **Mandatory Pre-Bid** conference will be held at **10:00 a.m.** on March 2, 2018, at the NMHC Tinian Field Office, San Jose, Tinian.

For more information, contact Mr. Jacob Muna, Acting Office Manager, at (670)234-6866/7689 during regular business hours, 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, except CNMI holidays.

/s/ Aubry Hocog
Chairwoman,
NMHC Board of Directors


/s/ Herman S. Sablan
Director,
Division of Procurement & Supply

SAIPAN CORPORATION

(1) OPERATION MANAGER

- Must Have 4 years experience in Managerial Position.
- Can speak English, Korean and Chinese

Contact Person: **Jane Kim**
Contact Number : **783-0085**



REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
MVA-RFP-18-2011

Submission /Closing Date: March 29, 2018 Time: 3:00 p.m.

For: Local Public Relation and Media Services

Submit sealed proposals to: Marianas Visitors Authority, Procurement Office
San Jose Professional Building, Beach Rd., San Jose
P.O. Box 500861, Saipan, MP 96950

Interested parties may pick up the Scope of Work on or after **February 26, 2018**, at the **Marianas Visitors Authority Office, San Jose Professional Building, Beach Road, San Jose, Saipan**, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays. Proposals submitted from individuals outside the Commonwealth must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or certified courier services by **March 29, 2018**, and must be received within seven (7) working days of that date. Proposers from outside the Commonwealth must notify the MVA/ Mr. David B. Muna in writing of their intent to submit a proposal in order to receive the additional seven (7) days for the receipt of the actual Proposal Documents. Participants outside the **Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands** must submit a **Notice of Intent** by any mode of written communication including facsimile at +1-670-664-3237 or email to dmuna@mymarianas.com, and must be received by 5 p.m. Chamorro Standard Time on **March 29, 2018**.

All questions regarding this RFP must be sent to Mr. David B. Muna at dmuna@mymarianas.com or faxed to +1-670-664-3237, **no later than 5 p.m. Chamorro Standard Time on March 15, 2018.**

/s/ Gloria C. Cavanagh
Chairperson, Board of Directors

/s/ Christopher A. Concepcion
Managing Director

KZMI FM sponsors NMC golf tourney

To help promote the Northern Marianas College Foundation's Golf Tournament, KZMI FM donated \$3,000 in radio advertisements to market the event.

The 15th Annual NMC Foundation Open golf tournament is scheduled for Saturday, March 3, 2018. The event will be the first major golf

tournament of the year.

"KZMI has always been a strong supporter of the NMC Foundation and of expanding higher education opportunities for students in the CNMI," said Bob Webb, general manager of KZMI FM. "We will continue to support the efforts of the foundation in any way.

"We are extremely grateful for KZMI's contribution to the tournament and its continued commitment to the college," said Dr. Carmen Fernandez, NMC president.

The golf tournament is the NMC Foundation's signature event that raises funds to support NMC's academic programs and services.

"We are always excited to collaborate with KZMI in our promotional efforts for the Golf Tournament," said Mary Tenorio, NMC Foundation board chair. "Thank you, KZMI, for your continued support."

The 15th Annual NMC Foundation Open golf tournament will be held at the Saipan

LaoLao Bay Golf & Resort (west course). Showtime is at 6am; shotgun start will be at 7am. The tournament will follow a medal play format.

First place winners in the men's Championship, A, B, C, Senior, and Ladies Flights will each receive \$500, while \$300 and \$200 will go to the

second and third place finishers, respectively.

Registration and payment can be made at Laolao Bay Golf & Resort or the NMC Cashier's Office. For sponsorship opportunities or registration information, visit marianas.edu or call 237-6833. (NMC)

USCIS strengthens protections vs H-1B abuses

WASHINGTON—The H-1B visa program generally allows a foreign employee to work for a specific sponsoring American employer. As is true in many employment situations, the location of work can change.

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services has published a policy memorandum making clear that USCIS may request detailed documentation to ensure a legitimate employer-employee relationship is maintained while an employee is working at a third-party worksite.

In publishing this policy, USCIS clarifies existing regulatory requirements relating to H-1B petitions filed for workers who will be employed at one or more third-party worksites. This policy memorandum makes clear that employers must provide contracts and itineraries for employees who will work

at a third-party location.

The guidance, effective Feb. 22, 2018, explains that, in order for an H-1B petition involving a third-party worksite to be approved, the petitioner must show by a preponderance of evidence that, among other things:

- The beneficiary will be employed in a specialty occupation; and

- The employer will maintain an employer-employee relationship with the beneficiary for the duration of the requested validity period.

When H-1B beneficiaries are placed at third-party worksites, petitioners must demonstrate that they have specific and non-speculative qualifying assignments in a specialty occupation for that beneficiary for the entire time requested on the petition. While an H-1B petition may be approved for

up to three years, USCIS will, in its discretion, generally limit the approval period to the length of time demonstrated that the beneficiary will be placed in non-speculative work and during which the petitioner will maintain the requisite employer-employee relationship.

The updated policy guidance aligns with President Trump's Buy American and Hire American executive order and the directive to protect the interests of U.S. workers. Employment-based petitioners who circumvent the worker protections outlined in the nation's immigration laws not only injure U.S. workers (e.g., their wages and job opportunities), but also the foreign workers for whom they are petitioning.

For more information on USCIS and its programs, visit uscis.gov. (USCIS)

March will be designated 'Women's Month'

A proclamation recognizing March as "Women's Month" and March 8 as "International Women's Day" will be signed this Wednesday, Feb. 28, at 10am at Bldg. 1346 (Women's Affairs Office) on Capital Hill. All are welcome to join the proclamation signing and ribbon-cutting ceremony.

Each March, the CNMI celebrates Women's Month—a time to recognize, honor, and celebrate the lives, contributions and achievements of women to their communities. Across the nation, communities, school districts and organizations line up a series of activities and events to pay tribute to the women of our nation.

Spearheaded by the CNMI Women's Association, the Office of the Special Assistant for Women's Affairs, and their community partners, the month of March will feature a lineup of activities that will give emphasis on the call to include women's concerns and issues in leadership platforms and the government's development agenda.

The International Women's Day theme is "Press For Progress." The CNMI has adopted "Press For Continued Progress" as its theme for 2018.

The CNMI Women's Association is funded by the Com-

munity Services block grant, a sub-grant awarded by the Division of Youth Services under the Office of Community Services, Department of

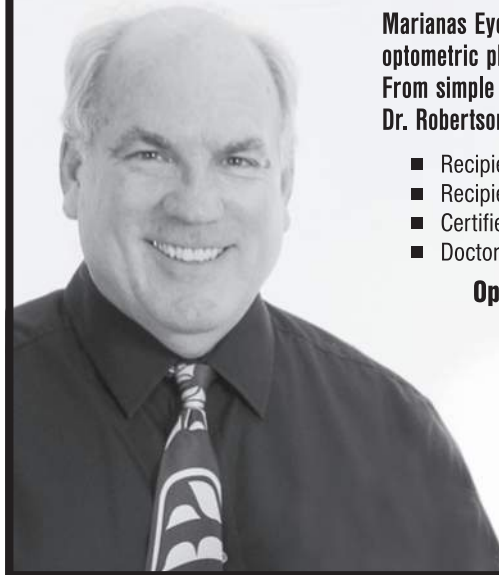
Health and Human Services, and awarded by the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs' Division of Youth Services. (PR)



KZMI FM recently donated \$3,000 in radio advertisements to Northern Marianas College in support of the annual NMC Foundation Golf Tournament that will be held on Saturday, March 3, 2018. From left to right are Tenny Ann Degamo, NMC student; Bob Webb, KZMI FM general manager; NMC president Dr. Carmen Fernandez; Frankie Eliptico, NMC dean of Advancement; and Vincent Manahane, NMC student.

NMC

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234-3925/7

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Jennifer Ross, BC-HIS
Board Certified in Hearing
Instrument Sciences

Email: rosshearingaids@yahoo.com

2018 Miss Marianas Pageant

PHOTOS By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA



Miss Marianas contestant No. 2, Jaiden Santos, showcases her national costume during the 2018 Miss Marianas pageant last Saturday at the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan.



Miss Marianas contestant No. 6, Chloe Salvosa, showcases her national costume during the 2018 Miss Marianas pageant last Saturday at the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan.



Miss Marianas contestant No. 7, Maricris Zapanta, showcases her national costume during the 2018 Miss Marianas pageant last Saturday at the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan.



The Miss Marianas contestants showcase their national costumes during the 2018 Miss Marianas pageant last Saturday at the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan.



The Miss Marianas contestants showcase their swimsuits during the 2018 Miss Marianas pageant last Saturday at the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan.



Miss Marianas contestant No. 8, Celine Cabrera, showcases her national costume during the 2018 Miss Marianas pageant last Saturday at the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan.



The top two Miss Marianas finalists await the naming of the 2018 Miss Marianas during the 2018 Miss Marianas pageant last Saturday at the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan.



The top three Miss Marianas finalists pose for a photo during the 2018 Miss Marianas pageant last Saturday at the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan.



The Miss Marianas contestants pose for a photo with the crowned queen, Celine Cabrera, third from the right, during the 2018 Miss Marianas Pageant last Saturday at the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan.



2017 Miss Marianas Peachy Quitugua performs her final walk during the 2018 Miss Marianas pageant last Saturday at the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan.

E-form for Guam-CNMI Visa Waiver Program travelers

WASHINGTON—U.S. Customs and Border Protection has released an electronic version of Form I-736 for visitors destined for Guam or the CNMI who are participating in the Guam-CNMI Visa Waiver Program.

Travelers who opt to complete the electronic Form I-736 must print and sign the form to present to a CBP officer upon arrival in Guam or the CNMI. CBP encourages travelers who are required to complete the Form I-736 to complete and print the electronic version in lieu of completing the paper form upon arrival in Guam or CNMI to help expedite their entry process.

The electronic Form I-736 is available at <https://i736.cbp.dhs.gov/>.

All arriving Guam-CNMI VWP travelers must be in possession of a completed and signed Form I-736. Twelve countries/geographic areas participate in the Guam-CNMI Visa Waiver Program including Australia, Brunei, Hong Kong, Japan, Malaysia, Nauru, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, South Korea, Singapore, Taiwan, and the United Kingdom.

Visitors who hold passports from the Russian Federation are required to present a signed paper copy of Form I-736 in order to travel to Guam or the CNMI without a visa.

People’s Republic of China passport holders are required to present a signed paper copy of Form I-736 in order to travel to the CNMI without a visa.

Eligible travelers under the Guam-CNMI Visa Waiver Program who have an approved Electronic System for Travel Authorization, or ESTA, or are in possession of a valid U.S. visa are not required to complete Form I-736. China passport holders who hold a valid visa for travel to the United States and who have a valid Electronic Visa Update System, EVUS, enrollment are also not required to complete Form I-736.

Additional information about Form I-736 is available at <https://i736.cbp.dhs.gov/> or www.CBP.gov. **(PR)**

Robbery suspect arrested

On Monday Feb. 19, 2018, at approximately 10:10pm, police dispatch received a call regarding a theft from a vehicle at Banzai Cliff.



Babauta

The victim, a local tour guide, said her purse was stolen from her vehicle on Monday between 8pm and 8:30pm. At that time, the tour guide escorted passengers on a 30-minute tour of the cliff, while her purse and a sleeping child were left in the car. The driver did not notice the purse was missing until she returned her group to Pacific

Islands Club. Later that evening, she reviewed the vehicle’s surveillance camera, confirmed that her purse was stolen, and called police.

The video from the vehicle prompted several tips to the Crime Stoppers hotline. As result of those tips, police brought 35-year-old Rodney Babauta in for questioning, at 9:56am, Thursday morning. Babauta confessed to stealing the purse, and has been arrested and charged with burglary and theft on a vehicle. **(DPS)**

Knock, knock! Who’s there? Russia!



MVA

Marianas Visitors Authority Russia regional manager Svetlana Vasilevskaya, left, marks the launch of a new travel promotion by Jeju Air from Vladivostok, Russia, to the Marianas with a Jeju Air agent.

The Marianas Visitors Authority is expecting an increase in Russian tourism arrivals this spring with Jeju Air’s new travel promotion from Vladivostok to the Marianas via quick transit through Seoul. Jeju Air is offering a variety

of low-cost options for travelers, with fares for roundtrip from Vladivostok to the Marianas this spring starting at \$250 for adult. The fare is also discounted 25 percent for children ages 2-12 and 90 percent for children ages 0-2.

“We have been working very closely with our MVA Russia representative office to generate more visitor arrivals from Russia, and this spring promotion by Jeju Air looks very promising,” said MVA marketing specialist Hillary

Agulto. “We see a growing potential for the Russian market and are excited to welcome more Russian visitors back to the Marianas now and for years to come.”

The MVA is supporting the promotion with online ad articles, SNS promotion, and radio ads. With the purchase of tickets at the Jeju Air Vladivostok office, each traveler will also receive a Guideline leaflet developed for tourists, which includes details on promotional offers by participating hotels such as Saipan World Resort, Mango Resort and Suites, Hyatt Regency Saipan, Pacific Island Club Saipan, and Kensington Hotel Saipan.

A number of the offers include complimentary meals, access to upgraded amenities, discounted spas and fitness packages, and hotel room promotions. The MVA will also expand its current promotions in Russia with a new incentive program for travel agents in March. **(MVA)**

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

Office of the Executive Director

REQUEST FOR STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS

CUC-RSQ-18-014

DESIGN, CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT, SURVEYING, CONSTRUCTION INSPECTION, AND OTHER A&E PROFESSIONAL SERVICES FOR VARIOUS COMMONWEALTH UTILITIES CORPORATION WATER AND WASTEWATER PROJECTS

The Office of the Executive Director for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting Statement of Qualifications from qualified architecture & engineering (A&E) firms for the design of water and wastewater infrastructure including but not limited to water mains, sewer mains (gravity and pressure), lift stations, booster pumping stations, water storage reservoirs, treatment works, upgrade to existing facilities; providing construction management services including but not limited to submittal review, clarification and technical assistance related to contract plans and specification, field engineering due to changes in conditions during construction, construction inspection, electrical inspection, review of partial payment requests, surveying, and other related engineering services on various CUC Water and Wastewater Projects on the Island of Saipan, Tinian and Rota, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The proposed projects are funded by a grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and CUC. All work is subject to EPA & CUC review and pre-approval.

The RSQ package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$100.00 for one RFSOQ package set. The RSQ package consisting of the specifications and scope-of-service will be provided in a CD or emailed to the registered email ID. Prospective firms must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division to be considered.

One (1) original and Five (5) copies of the SOQ must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked “CUC-RSQ 18-014, Request for Statement of Qualifications” to CUC Procurement & Supply Division, 3rd Floor, Room No.3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O.Box 501220, Dandan, Saipan MP 96950, **no later than 10:00 a.m. (ChST) on March 12, 2018**. Statements of Qualifications mailed via postal or courier service must be received or postmarked on or before due date and time. Late submissions and conditional proposals will not be considered.

A&E firm are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the A&E firm due to lack of information or understanding of the Request for Statement of Qualifications requirements in the course of Contractor’s preparation of a SOQ under the contract.

Discussions may be conducted with responsible A&E firms who submit proposals determined to be reasonably susceptible of being selected for award for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of and responsiveness to solicitation requirements. A&E firms shall be accorded fair and equal treatment with respect to any opportunity to discussion and revision of proposals, and such revision may be permitted after submission and prior to award for the purpose of obtaining the best and final offers. During discussions, there will be no disclosure of any information derived from proposals submitted by competing offerors.

This Request for Statements of Qualifications does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of statements of qualifications in anticipation of a contract. This request and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC procurement regulations. The contractor shall be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable federal regulations.

All responses to this RSQ should take into account any and all taxes, which will become the obligation of the proponent, awarded a contract. Successful proponents will be required to submit a copy of a valid CNMI Business and Engineering license in compliance with the Licensing Laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, upon award of the contract. The Contractor and all subcontractors will be obligated to pay wage rates not less than the current CNMI minimum wage, prevailing through the period of contract, as indicated in the web page: <https://marianaslabor.net/>. The proponents shall be required to comply with all applicable CNMI and Federal Laws.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered prospective proposers and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 a.m. (ChST) on February 23, 2018** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Officer via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Nicolette Villagomez, CUC Water/Wastewater Jr. Engineer via email address nicollette.villagomez@cucgov.org and Marcela Tenorio, CUC Purchasing Assistant via email address marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all Statement of Qualifications for any reason and to waive any defects in said RSQ, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All Statement of Qualifications shall become the property of CUC.

GARY P. CAMACHO
Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Officer

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

Office of the Executive Director

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

CUC-RFP-18-010

MAUI 1 & 4 SHAFT WELLS MECHANICAL LIFT REHABILITATION PROJECT, SAIPAN

The Office of the Executive Director for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified firms to design a method to rehabilitate the Maui 1 & 4 mechanical lifts; to rehabilitate the existing mechanical lifts and develop a safety plan for all required work in the shaft and tunnels in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

This project is funded by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of approval for project award from the above mentioned funding agencies.

The RFP Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan on **February 22, 2018 at 10:00 AM (ChST)**. Immediately after the conference, a Site Visit to the Maui Shaft Wells facility will be conducted. Proposers shall familiarize themselves with the site conditions prior to submitting the proposal.

A Pre-proposal Conference will be conducted at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room 17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan on **February 22, 2018 at 10:00 AM (ChST)**. Immediately after the conference, a Site Visit to the Maui Shaft Wells facility will be conducted. Proposers shall familiarize themselves with the site conditions prior to submitting the proposal.

One (1) original and four (4) hard copies, along with an electronic copy of the proposal on a compact disk in PDF format must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked “CUC-RFP-18-010 Maui 1 & 4 Shaft Wells Mechanical Lift Rehabilitation Project, Saipan, CNMI” to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **March 16, 2018 at 10:00 AM (ChST)**. Late submissions and conditional proposals will not be considered.

A **Proposal Guarantee** of fifteen (15%) percent of the total proposal price must accompany the proposals. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier’s check, or proposal bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A **Payment Bond** of one hundred (100%) percent and a **Performance Bond** of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful Proposer. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety.

Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, for the protection of all persons supplying labor and material to the contractor or its subcontractors for the performance of the work provided for in the contract.

All insurers’ questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI’s Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). *Proposers are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI’s Insurance Code.*

Discussions may be conducted with responsible offerors who submit proposals determined to be reasonably susceptible of being selected for award for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of and responsiveness to solicitation requirements. Offerors shall be accorded fair and equal treatment with respect to any opportunity to discussion and revision of proposals, and such revision may be permitted after submission and prior to award for the purpose of obtaining the best and final offers. During discussions, there will be no disclosure of any information derived from proposals submitted by competing offerors.

All Offeror are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the Offeror due to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of Contractor’s preparation of a proposal or supply under the contract. The RFP does not commit CUC to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the proposal under this request, or to procure or contract for services. Offeror are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed as per the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All responses to this RFP should take into account any and all taxes, including excise tax, which will become the obligation of the proponent awarded a contract. Successful proponents will be required to submit a copy of a valid CNMI Business license in compliance with the Contractor’s Registration and Licensing Laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, upon award of the contract. The Contractor and all subcontractors will be obligated to pay wage rates not less than the current CNMI minimum wage, prevailing through the period of contract, as indicated in the web page: <https://marianaslabor.net/>. The proponents shall be required to comply with all applicable CNMI and Federal Laws.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered prospective proposers and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on February 26, 2018** to Manny B. Sablan, Jr. CUC Purchasing Officer via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to CUC Water-Wastewater Engineer, Jake Parker via email address jake.parker@cucgov.org and Marcela Tenorio, CUC Purchasing Assistant via email address Marcela.Tenorio@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for any reason and to waive any defects in said proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

GARY P. CAMACHO
Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Officer

Opinion

Hafa Adai! Saipan Tribune

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EDITORIAL

Don't dismiss 'Black Panther' as just another superhero movie

If ever there was a time when this bone-weary country needed the empowering "Black Panther" movie, this is it. We realize this Disney/Marvel tale is all fantasy entertainment based on a comic book superhero, but this film cuts against the negative cultural forces we often feel so powerless to combat. And who couldn't use a little uplifting these days?

No wonder folks of all races and creeds—Marvel fans and not—are packing movie houses in record-breaking numbers to see it. They're connecting to its universal message of embracing your power and using it for good.

Then there is a cultural bonus: its featuring of a rare black superhero. How often do children get to see a black champion flying through the air dodging blasts? It's the reason thousands of dollars are being raised to send groups of young people to see it.

For those living under a rock, the plot:

Prince T'Challa returns home to Wakanda after the death of his father. The prince finds himself fighting for his crown, his country and his life when a series of adversaries arrive seeking vibranium, an alien metal that powers everything in the African nation.

It celebrates a proud Afro-centric worldview (whole families of moviegoers are showing up in African attire) without shying away from complicated issues of race, class and gender.

And here are some reasons to plunk down your \$12:

Women are elevated and empowered.

Sure, it's a movie about a king coming into his own, but women are front and center. They aren't portrayed as defenseless victims or accessories. They're fierce warriors who serve as the security force for a nation against every adversary—and kick major butt.

It makes girls' passion for science and technology cool.

It's the king's genius sister, Shuri, who designs and builds the technological advances and spectacular gadgets featured in the story. The superhero has no protective armor suit without this girl. What a boost toward getting more girls interested and involved in STEM careers.

It busts stereotypes.

This ridiculous notion of Africa as poor Third World countries is turned on its head. All countries on Earth believe Wakanda to be so, but it secretly hides the most advanced technological society on the planet—a secret it guards to prevent its technology and weaponry from falling into the wrong hands.

We're not naive to think that one movie can help solve the thorny issues that ail us in this country. But we can hold out hope that this fun joy ride causes folks to think a little differently about them.

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Marco Rubio's genuine and useless talent

By **FRANCIS WILKINSON**
Bloomberg View



Francis Wilkinson writes editorials on politics and U.S. domestic policy for Bloomberg View. He was executive editor of the Week. He was previously a national affairs writer for Rolling Stone, a communications consultant and a political media strategist.

Senator Marco Rubio, who in his current iteration is stationed somewhere between the rising star and compromised warhorse of Republican politics, is a complicated figure, as reactions to his appearance at this week's CNN town hall on gun violence confirm.

Rubio either A) courageously entered a lion's den, allowing himself to be pummeled by grieving teens and family members traumatized by the mass murder in Parkland, Florida, that took the lives of loved ones. Or B) cynically filibustered his way through a tragic event without ever offering a genuine commitment to address a horrific problem.

With Rubio it's often best to choose C) Both.

The Florida senator is maddening precisely because he has such genuine and obvious political talent. He may not be much of a legislator, but he nonetheless takes the time to gain a solid grasp of issues, which he often articulates with ease and clarity. His ambition, the engine of every great politician, is bracing. And his engaging personal story, as the son of poor Cuban immigrants, is what American Dreams are (still) made of.

But in dreams begin responsibilities, and when it comes to Rubio, responsibility seems ever prone to work stoppages—both in him and in a twisted political culture that seems determined to thwart his best instincts.

Rubio was mostly impressive working the CNN town hall. With both President Donald Trump, the scripted maestro of his own carefully contained meeting on guns the same day, and Florida Governor Rick Scott shrinking from the field, Rubio had political cover to skip the event. His absence would have been grudgingly noted, but only the most serious grudges can be sustained amid the maelstroms of the Trump era.

As the sole Republican on stage, Rubio was bound to bear the burden of his party's unspoken but undeniable calculation on guns: Increased massacres, suicides and murders are a price the GOP is reluctantly willing to pay to keep the gun lobby happy and to keep single-issue gun fanatics voting Republican. Since that's not a message Republicans can deliver in public, debates on guns invariably leave them scrambling for cover behind the Second Amendment—minus the "well-regulated militia" part—and murmuring NRA-approved pablum about mental health that almost never translates into funding or legislation.

Rubio did his share of dodging, occasionally stammering as he tried the patience of a hostile audience. But as he gained confidence he also grew more forthright, refusing to renounce the NRA's contributions to his campaigns, while also saying that he is newly open to policies, such as raising the age limit on rifle purchases and imposing restrictions on high-capacity magazines, which the NRA opposes.

That capacity to see higher ground is part of what's so tanta-

lizing about Rubio, who always seems most sincere when most moderate and rational. Along with his relative youth and Cuban background, his basic reasonableness is what makes him appear a credible bridge from a party wallowing in Trumpist reaction to one that might reimagine American conservatism as something more than the sum of its resentments and myths.

But Rubio seems unable to build such a bridge, and the party seems unwilling to let him try. His machinations on immigration—he was against amnesty before he was for it before he turned, with nativists and talk-show hosts yapping at his heels, against it finally—were a travesty.

"I have a special cold, dark place in my heart for Marco Rubio," immigration advocate Frank Sharpy, who is far from mean-spirited, told Rolling Stone. "I've been around politicians for 30 years, and I know they have to lean and pander, but to see him argue for immigration reform in June 2013, and then argue with equal conviction against it a few months later, that is really disturbing."

Likewise, when it became clear during the 2016 presidential primary that the optimism, decency and reason expressed by Jeb Bush and John Kasich were tickets to GOP oblivion, Rubio scrambled aboard the night train.

Rolling down the track, he proved no match for Trump's darkness, nor could he compete with the more holistic cynicism of Ted Cruz or Chris Christie, the latter of whom dismantled Rubio at a debate in New Hampshire, exposing Rubio's robotic assault on Barack Obama as the stage work of an unbeliever pretending to be in the grip of the spirit.

Perhaps a better party would help him fulfill his natural potential, bracing him when he slips and providing the scaffolding that Rubio needs to raise himself up, with force and gravity. He is still young. But Rubio exists in the confines of the Republican Senate, where Jeff Flake is being hounded from office for failing to worship Trump's meanness, and the eloquent Ben Sasse, squirming in his pew, holds his tongue lest he follows his Arizona colleague into banishment.

No one rises here; all descend. Instead of forming a bridge to the future, Rubio's another soul lost in the void.

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Should kids who cut class for gun protests face punishment?

For high school students across the country, the week offered a stark lesson in political activism, led by grieving teens from the latest American school to fall victim to mass shooting.

Spontaneously galvanized high school kids have become the centerpiece in our seemingly unending and intractable argument over the prevalence of guns in our society. Teenagers staged demonstrations this week in a score of communities, and at least three major anti-gun observances specifically inviting student participation are scheduled in the weeks to come.

At least one Texas school district, as you perhaps heard, is having none of it. In a pre-emptive message posted on social media and sent to parents, the superintendent for schools in Needville, southwest of Houston, warned that kids participating in any kind of demonstration during class hours would face suspension.

"All will be suspended for 3 days and parent notes will not alleviate the discipline," wrote Superintendent Curtis Rhodes in a message heavy on stern language and exclamation points. "A disruption of the school will not be tolerated."

The district's Facebook page was abruptly shut down Thursday; perhaps someone pointed out that students at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High in Parkland, Fla., where 17 people were shot to death on Valentine's Day, endured a disruption that pales in comparison to a student walkout.

The issue raises some questions, however, and poses something of a headache for other school districts trying to balance students' concerns at a pivotal moment in our national debate with the workaday need to jam physics and French verbs into their noggins.

A quick survey of our area's biggest school districts found that some have a policy ready to go, and others are waiting-to-see. They're waiting to find out what kind of events are planned, and—perhaps—whether this movement loses steam in the coming weeks, in the all-too-familiar pattern of political concern and popular activism following other gun massacres in recent years.

A spokeswoman for the Dallas Independent School District said there likely won't be discussion of the issue unless admin-

istrators get word of a specific event involving students being planned. Last year, the DISD took no action beyond recording unexcused absences to an estimated 15,000 who cut school to participate in immigration policy protests.

Fort Worth schools have already mapped out a policy, the same one used last year when students there participated in immigration rallies.

"Should students leave their school without permission, it will be counted as an unexcused absence," said Fort Worth ISD spokesman Clint Bond in an e-mail. Their parents will be notified, but no other disciplinary action was specified.

"School personnel will not attempt to stop the students but will advise them of the consequences," Bond continued. In the event of a mass walkout, school personnel and possibly police officers will act as escorts to ensure students' safety, he said.

To date, three main nationwide events have been planned with student participation in mind.

The first two dates don't pose a problem for most area schools. A March 14 "National School Walkout," planned by some of the same organizers as this year's and last Women's Marches, falls on a Wednesday—but several local school districts, including DISD, will be observing spring break.

A March 24 "March For Our Lives" calling for gun control measures is planned for Washington, D.C., as well as several other cities. A Facebook page indicates Dallas students will participate in the event, with a gathering at City Hall Plaza from noon to 3 p.m. That date falls on a Saturday, so schools will not be affected.

If this movement continues to gain traction, there's a third event scheduled that would conflict with school schedules. A "National High School Walkout" has been called for April 20—a Friday. It will be the 19th anniversary of the school shooting at Columbine High School in Colorado, widely regarded as the nation's horrifying introduction to the modern era of school gun massacres.

That walkout, reportedly organized by a Connecticut high school teen, is outlined on a Change.org petition. At midday Thursday, the petition had more than 150,000 pledges of partici-

By **ACQUIELYN FLOYD**
The Dallas Morning News



pation from across the country.

"Nothing has changed since Columbine," states the petition. "Let us start a movement that lets the government know the time for change is now."

Many of us have clear recollections of the horror at Columbine. I went to Colorado to report in the days following the massacre, and the community's shock and grief left an impression I will never forget.

For many of the young people involved in this new wave of activism, however, Columbine is literally more than a lifetime ago. The threat of mass shooting in schools isn't a modern horror; it has been on their radar their entire lives.

It is impossible to predict whether this round of protests will lose steam as quickly as its predecessors. Older activists, frustrated by political stonewalling and shouted down by opponents of any gun regulations, keep falling into resignation—until the next tragedy.

It's just possible—not likely, perhaps, but possible—that high school kids will turn out to be the unexpected agents of sustained momentum.

If students remain as committed to seeking change on April 20, the anniversary of that landmark tragedy, as they were this week, they will have broken new ground in our deadlocked gun debate.

And should they remain that committed, it's doubtful that their first concern will be the consequences of skipping school. After Parkland, maybe that's the least of their worries.

Young voters should scare incumbents. Here's why they don't.

I have bad news for the survivors of the Stoneman Douglas school shooting and their contemporaries:

America's incumbent elected officials are not afraid of you. And they are unlikely to change their voting habits just because you've made such an eloquent argument for saner restrictions on firearms.

Don't get me wrong: It's not that they don't see you, hear you, and feel your pain. They're people, too—parents, many of them—and they have been as moved as all the rest of us have by your passion, your raw grief and your determination to make schools and other public places safer.

The politicians have not been fooled by fringe extremists and conspiracy theorists who insist that you are witless pawns, or even performers paid to exploit this moment on behalf of cynical political interests. They know you are sincere, that your arguments are as reasonable as they are impassioned, and that there will be hell to pay if you go to the polls this November, or in November 2020, convinced that the incumbents are not paying attention to you.

But they're betting that when it comes down to mobilizing your peers to vote, you'll fail.

And history is on their side.

Demographers have been telling politicians for at least a decade that young voters are coming for them with torches and pitchforks.

My generation—the Baby Boomers born between 1946 and 1965—reached the zenith of its voting power 14 years ago, when George W. Bush beat John Kerry in the 2004 presidential election, and has been declining ever since.

By 2016, millennial voters—defined as those between 18 and 35—made up 31 percent of the population eligible to vote, pulling even with Boomers and dwarfing both the so-called Silent Generation (71 or older-plus), which is 12 percent of the voting pool, and Generation X (36-51 years old), which accounts for roughly 25 percent.

The millennials' electoral potential will only increase as students of Douglas High School and their contemporaries turn 18.

But potential is not the same as potency—and millennials have yet to show any inclination to exploit their emerging demographic advantage. When it comes to actually casting a ballot, they're far less likely to participate than their elders.

In 2012, when Barack Obama won re-election, only 46 percent of millennials turned out, compared to 72 percent of those 71 and older. Millennial turnout jumped to 49 percent in the 2016 general election, but still lagged electoral participation by Boomers (69 percent), Generation Xers (63 percent) and Silent Generation voters (70 percent). Still wonder why lawmakers pay more attention to Medicare than student debt?

In fact, presidents, members of Congress and state legislators are acutely aware of this discrepancy between demographic trends and voting behavior. It's the reason they are forever selling the nation's seed corn—i.e., reducing investment in higher education, basic research, alternative energy—to provide tax cuts for the older voters who so reliably show up for them on Election Day. Why would any incumbent lawmakers concerned about re-election vote to fob trillions of dollars in debt to the next generation of taxpayers if they believed those taxpayers were actually paying attention?

It's not that politicians don't sympathize with the students speaking out in Washington, Tallahassee and Lansing, or even that they disagree with their message. It's just that they don't fear young voters the way they fear deep-pocketed groups like the National Rifle Association, the fossil fuel industry and the American Association of Retired Persons, who have the resources to recruit and bankroll primary opponents to challenge incumbents who balk at doing their bidding.

There's no shortage of theories to explain why young people are less likely to vote, and few are flattering. Some speculate that millennials who have never had to wait in line to register for classes, order concert tickets or buy toilet paper simply don't

By **BRIAN DICKERSON**
Detroit Free Press



Brian Dickerson is the Editorial Page Editor of the Free Press.

have the patience to stand in line on Election Day, or even to contact their city clerk for an absentee ballot. (I suspect this explains legislators' reluctance to authorize digital balloting far better than their expressed concerns about voter fraud and cyber-security.)

More sympathetic analysts say that younger voters have concluded that their participation is less impactful in a age of unrestrained gerrymandering and special interest spending.

But millennial voters don't need a good reason to earn the continued neglect of their elected representatives; all they need to do is maintain their habit of sitting on the sidelines.






But there's a glimmer of hope, because it turns out that converting spectators into voters doesn't take a whole lot. Research suggests that simply asking young people whether they intend to vote substantially increases the likelihood that they will. This suggests a little peer pressure could go a long way next November.

So far, though, experience teaches that politicians who express support for young voters' priorities on the campaign trail but subordinate them to the interests of older voters in office have little to fear.

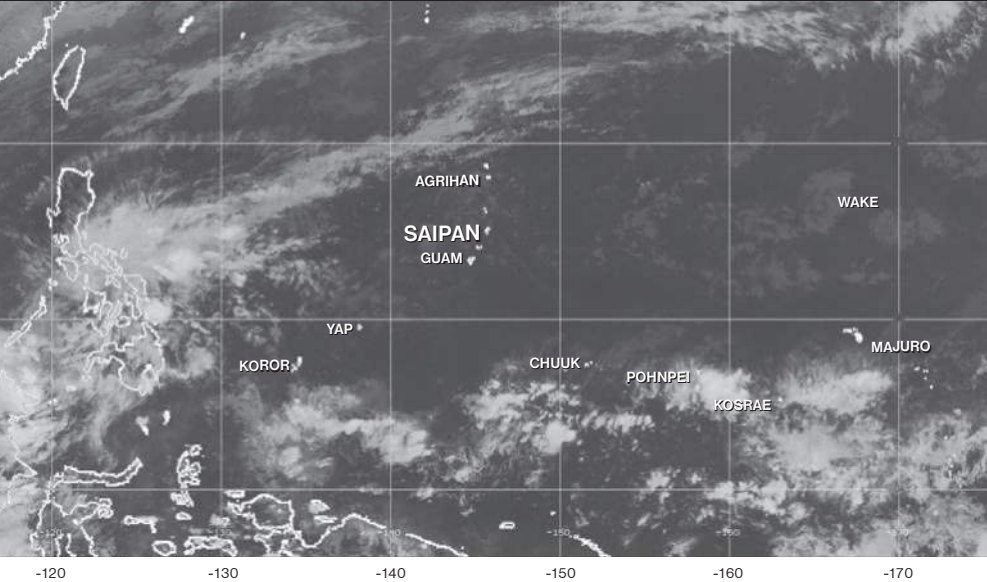
I hope their confidence is misplaced, and that this time, they've miscalculated. And I hope that what happens this August and this November scares them in a way this week's impassioned rhetoric and televised demonstrations simply cannot.

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
				
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Northeast winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with a slight chance of showers.
▲88° ▼76°	▲89° ▼77°	▲89° ▼78°	▲89° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 8:13 AM, SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2018

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Partly cloudy skies will continue through the morning hours. A weak surface trough to the east of the Marianas will bring an increase in cloudiness and a slight increase in shower activity to the islands by this afternoon. This system will move through the region overnight, with normal dry trade-wind pattern returning by Monday morning. Models indicate a fairly dry pattern continuing through the week. Buoys indicate seas are currently between 5 and 8 feet across the Marianas waters this morning. The predominant swell is from the east with a small 1 to 2 feet northerly swell. This will continue through the week. Tabular wave guidance indicates that seas could spike for a short time on Monday, possibly increasing the rip risk to high for a short period of time to east facing reefs on Monday.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA ▲ ▼ °F		
Guam and Rota	Showers	86° / 77°
Palau	Partly Cloudy	85° / 77°
Yap	Partly Cloudy	85° / 79°
Chuuk	Thunderstorm	85° / 79°
Pohnpei	Thunderstorm	84° / 78°
Kosrae	Thunderstorm	84° / 78°
Majuro	Thunderstorm	85° / 79°

AROUND THE GLOBE ▲ ▼ °F		
Auckland	Rain	73° / 64°
Beijing	Mostly Sunny	52° / 27°
Hong Kong	Partly Cloudy	70° / 66°
Honolulu	Mostly Cloudy	81° / 72°
London	Partly Cloudy	36° / 27°
Los Angeles	Sunny	66° / 47°
Manila	Partly Cloudy	90° / 77°
Melbourne	Sunny	86° / 66°
Miami	Sunny	80° / 70°
New York	Partly Cloudy	56° / 38°
Osaka	Sunny	55° / 43°
Paris	Partly Cloudy	41° / 27°
Busan	Mostly Sunny	55° / 46°
Rome	Showers	43° / 28°
Salem	Rain	69° / 48°
San Francisco	Rain	51° / 38°
Seoul	Cloudy	50° / 32°
Tokyo	Mostly Sunny	50° / 39°
Washington, DC	Partly Cloudy	59° / 38°



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY FEET		
5:31 AM	HIGH TIDE	1.72
10:33 AM	LOW TIDE	1.21
3:41 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.85
11:14 PM	LOW TIDE	-0.31

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:36 AM	6:23 PM
Tuesday	6:35 AM	6:24 PM
Wednesday	6:35 AM	6:24 PM
Thursday	6:34 AM	6:24 PM
Friday	6:35 AM	6:24 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	-	2:52 am	2:36 pm
Tuesday	-	3:51 am	3:38 pm
Wednesday	-	4:49 am	4:40 pm
Thursday	-	5:43 am	5:42 pm
Friday	-	6:34 am	6:41 pm

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF DECEMBER 19, 2017

DEPARTURES			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)			
UA6394	4:15am	5:05am	Daily
UA6392	8:40am	9:30am	Daily
UA6391	1:30pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota
UA6390	2:20pm	3:10pm	2, 3, 6
UA6398	6:05pm	6:55pm	Daily
UA6396	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily

SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)			
UA6391	1:30pm	2:05pm	1, 4, 5, 7

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)			
UA6391	2:35pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)			
DL297	4:20pm	7:15pm	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)			
7C3451	3:10am	6:10am	1, 7
7C3451	4:00am	7:05am	4, 5

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)			
TW308	2:00am	6:05am	Daily
OZ626	2:10am	6:00am	1
OZ626	2:50am	6:40am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
LJ652	3:40am	7:30am	1, 4, 5, 7
7C3403	4:45am	8:30am	Daily
7C3401	4:00pm	7:45pm	Daily

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)			
3U8648	5:40am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-HANGZHOU (GHG)			
JD396	7:30am	12:00pm	1
JD396	4:50pm	10:00pm	4

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)			
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)			
MU764	1:30am	6:35am	3, 5, 7

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)			
OZ626/701	2:10am	10:55am	1 via ICN
OZ626/701	2:50am	10:55am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA6394/191	4:15am	9:00am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	8:10am	7 via GUM
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	9:20am	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via GUM
UA6398/183	6:05pm	9:40pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA6398/183	6:05pm	9:50pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA6398/193	6:05pm	11:50pm	2, 5 via GUM-ROR

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)			
HX077	1:50am	5:15am	1, 4
OZ626/721	2:10am	11:50am	1 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
U043	5:45am	8:40am	1, 3, 5, 7
UA6398/159	6:05pm	11:00pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

ARRIVALS			
GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA6393	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA6395	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA6391	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA6390	12:10pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6 via Rota
UA6397	4:45pm	5:35pm	Daily
UA6399	8:30pm	9:20pm	Daily

GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)			
UA6390	12:10pm	12:45pm	2, 3, 6

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN			
UA6390	1:15pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
DL298	10:30am	3:05pm	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
7C3452	9:00pm	2:10am+1	4
7C3452	9:05pm	2:10am+1	3, 6, 7

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
7C3402	9:30am	3:00pm	Daily
OZ625	7:40pm	1:00am+1	7
TW307	7:45pm	1:00am+1	Daily
OZ625	8:20pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
LJ651	9:10pm	2:40am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
3U8647	10:20pm	4:30am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

HANGZHOU (GHG)-SAIPAN			
JD395	8:25am	3:30pm	4
JD395	9:55pm	5:00am+1	7

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN			
MU763	4:25pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
UA182/6395	12:40am	8:05am	3, 6 via GUM
UA190/6397	9:55am	5:35pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ702/625	12:25pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/625	12:25pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
PR110/UA6395	10:05pm	8:05am+1	Daily via GUM
UA192/6395	10:30pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
UA184/6395	10:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN			
OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
HX076	5:15pm	12:15am+1	3, 7
U042	6:50pm	1:45am+1	7
U042	9:30pm	4:25am+1	2, 4, 6
UA116/6395	11:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U Sichuan Airlines, 7C Jeju Air, DL Delta Airlines, JD Beijing Capital, UO HK Express, HX HongKong Airlines, LJ Jin Air, MU China Eastern, OZ Asiana Airlines, TW t'way Air, UA United Airlines, PR PAL Express; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

SAIPAN TO ROTA			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1301	7:30AM	8:00AM	Daily
1302	11:30AM	12:00PM	Daily
1303	4:00PM	4:30PM	Daily

ROTA TO SAIPAN			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3101	8:15AM	8:45AM	Daily
3102	1:45PM	2:15PM	Daily
3103	4:45PM	5:15PM	Daily

ROTA TO GUAM			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3401	12:15PM	12:45PM	Daily

GUAM TO ROTA			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
4301	1:00PM	1:30PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO TINIAN			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1201	7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily
1202	8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily
1203	9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1204	10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
1205	11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
1206	12:00PM	12:15PM	Daily
1207	1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
1208	2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
1209	3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
1210	4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
1211	5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
1212	6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily

TINIAN TO SAIPAN			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
2102	7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
2103	8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
2104	9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
2105	10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
2106	11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
2107	12:30PM	12:45PM	Daily
2108	1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
2109	2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
2110	3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
2111	4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
2112	5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
2113	6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily

Business

More companies end ties with NRA as pressure mounts

NEW YORK (AP)—Three more companies said Friday they had ended discount programs with the National Rifle Association, as U.S. corporations take a closer look at investments, co-branding deals and other ties to the gun industry after the latest school massacre.

Petitions are circulating online targeting companies that offer discounts to NRA members on its website. #BoycottNRA has trended on Twitter.

Members of the NRA have access to special offers from partner companies on its website, ranging from life insurance to wine clubs. For a second consecutive day, companies listed on the site have cut ties to the group as it aggressively resists calls for stricter gun control in the wake of the mass shooting last week at a Florida high school that left 17 dead.

The insurance company MetLife Inc. discontinued its discount program with the NRA on Friday. The car rental company Hertz and Symantec Corp., the software company



The First National Bank logo adorns an ATM in Omaha, Neb., Friday, Feb. 23, 2018. The Nebraska-based First National Bank of Omaha said Thursday they will not renew its contract to issue the group's National Rifle Association Visa Card, spokesman Kevin Langin said in a statement.

companies are reacting to a perception that public opinion is shifting on gun regulation. Polls show growing support for gun control measures, including 97 percent backing for universal background checks in a Quinnipiac University survey released Tuesday.

"It's based on the fact that these companies and their marketing officers are reading the tea leaves. It makes economic sense to get on the side of the majority of Americans," said Hatcher, co-managing partner of Davidoff Hatcher & Citron LLP.

NRA Executive Vice President Wayne LaPierre said this week at the Conservative Political Action Conference, that those advocating for stricter gun control are exploiting the Florida shooting.

President Donald Trump has aligned himself with the NRA, suggesting some teachers could be armed so that they could fire on any attacker. However, Trump has also called for raising the minimum age for purchasing semi-automatic rifles, a move the NRA opposes.

On Friday, a large Wall Street money management firm said that it wanted to engage with major weapons manufacturers about what comes next.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Trump officials fight eviction from Panama hotel they manage

PANAMA CITY (AP)—One of President Donald Trump's family businesses is battling an effort to physically evict its team of executives from a luxury hotel in Panama where they manage operations, and police have been called to keep the peace, The Associated Press has learned. Witnesses told the AP they saw Trump's executives carrying files to a room for shredding. Representatives of the hotel owners' association formally sought to fire Trump's management team Thursday by hand-delivering termination notices to them at the Trump International Hotel and Tower, according to a Panamanian legal complaint filed by Orestes Fintiklis, who controls 202 of the property's 369 hotel units. Trump's managers retreated behind the glass walls of an office where they were seen carrying files to an area where the sounds of a shredding machine could be heard, according to two witnesses aligned with the owners. The legal complaint also accused Trump's team of improperly destroying documents. The witnesses spoke on condition of anonymity over concerns they would be drawn into an expensive and protracted legal fight. Elsewhere in the building, the hotel owners' team

and its allies were barred by Trump Hotel staff from entering the room containing the building's closed-circuit TV system as well as key computer servers for the hotel and apartments that share the property. In response, they shut off power to the room—temporarily bringing down phone lines and internet connections within the building.

Angry French farmers boo President Macron at Paris ag fair

PARIS (AP)—With boos and whistles, French farmers gave President Emmanuel Macron a piece of their mind at a major agriculture event where he was trying to promote his policies. Macron was supposed to visit the Paris Agriculture Fair all day Saturday - a key moment to address French farmers' concerns. He had a tense exchange with cereal producers loudly protesting his government's proposal to ban a pesticide called glyphosate by 2020. Macron, visibly irritated, promised to find "solutions" to replace glyphosate, which is thought to be carcinogenic. Many farmers are also angry about trade talks with South American countries that could make France import more foreign meat. Macron said his policies aim to invest more to raise French food and farming standards and to help farmers facing foreign competition.

that makes Norton Antivirus technology, did the same.

Insurer Chubb Ltd. said Friday it is ending participation in the NRA's gun-owner insur-

ance program, but it provided notice three months ago. The program that provided coverage for people involved in gun-related incidents or accidents had been under scrutiny by regulators over marketing issues.

Those defections arrived a day after car rental company Enterprise Holdings, which also owns Alamo and National, said it was cutting off discounts for NRA members. First National Bank of Omaha, one of the nation's largest privately held banks, announced that it would not renew a co-branded Visa credit-card with the NRA.

Other companies, including Wyndham Hotels and Best Western hotels, have let social media users know they

are no longer affiliated with the NRA, though they did not make clear when the partnerships ended.

The swiftness of the corporate reaction against the NRA has differed from that of past shootings, including the 2012 Sandy Hook Elementary School massacre that claimed 26 lives and the killing of 58 people in Las Vegas last fall, said Bob Spitzer, a political scientist at SUNY Cortland and a scholar on gun politics. Spitzer said the reaction was likely a reaction to the student mobilization that followed the Florida shooting, but he said it was too soon tell how significantly it will sway the country's wider gun debate.

"If this is as far as it goes, it

probably won't have any measurable effect. If other companies continue to (cut ties) it can start to have an adverse public relations effect," Spitzer said. "Usually what happens is that the storm passes, and the NRA counts on that."

Spitzer noted that it was not the first time big business has been pulled into the gun debate. In 2014, Chipotle asked customers not to bring firearms into its stores after gun rights advocates brought military-style rifles into one of its Texas restaurants. A year earlier, Starbucks Corp. made a similar statement after the Newtown, Connecticut, shooting.

Larry Hatcher, an attorney who specializes in commercial law and litigation, said

Investor Warren Buffett says good deals tough to find

OMAHA, Neb. (AP)—Investor Warren Buffett says Wall Street's lust for deals has prompted CEOs to act like oversexed teenagers and overpay for acquisitions, so it has been hard to find deals for Berkshire Hathaway.

In his annual letter to shareholders Saturday, Buffett mixed investment advice with details of how Berkshire's many businesses performed. Buffett blamed his recent acquisition drought on ambitious CEOs who have been encouraged to take on debt to finance pricey deals.

"If Wall Street analysts or board members urge that brand of CEO to consider possible acquisitions, it's a bit like telling your ripening teenager to be sure to have a normal sex life," Buffett said.

Berkshire is also facing

more competition for acquisitions from private equity firms and other companies such as privately held Koch Industries.

Buffett is sitting on \$116 billion of cash and bonds because he's struggled to find acquisitions at sensible prices. And Buffett is unwilling to load up on debt to finance deals at current prices.

"We will stick with our simple guideline: The less the prudence with which others conduct their affairs, the greater the prudence with which we must conduct our own," Buffett wrote.

He said the conglomerate recorded a \$29 billion paper gain because of the tax re-

forms Congress passed late last year. That helped it generate \$44.9 billion profit last year, up from \$24.1 billion the previous year.

Buffett's letter is always well-read in the business world because of his remarkable track record over more than five decades and his talent for explaining complicated subjects in plain language. But this year's letter left some investors wanting more because he didn't say much about Berkshire's succession plan, some noteworthy investment moves or the company's new partnership with Amazon and JP Morgan Chase to reduce health care costs.

Edward Jones analyst Jim



Buffett

Shanahan said he expected Buffett to devote more of the letter to explaining his decision to promote and name the top two candidates to eventually succeed him as Berkshire's CEO. Buffett briefly mentioned that move in two paragraphs at the very end of his letter.

That surprised John Fox, chief investment officer at FAM Funds, which holds Berkshire stock.

"He didn't say a lot about succession. I was expecting more," Fox said.

Greg Abel and Ajit Jain joined Berkshire's board in January and took on additional responsibilities. Jain will now oversee all of the conglomerate's insurance businesses while Abel will oversee all of the conglomerate's non-insurance business operations.

Nation

School shooting survivors target NRA-linked companies

By KEN SWEET and
FREIDA FRISARO
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Survivors of a mass shooting at a Florida high school are hoping to expand the reach of their gun control movement by seeking a boycott of companies doing business with the NRA and urging tourists to boycott the Sunshine State.

As the #BoycottNRA movement grew on Twitter, with petitions circulating against companies that offer discounts to NRA members, a growing number of those businesses announced they are cutting or reducing ties with the association.

Both Delta and United said Saturday that they will no longer offer discounted airfares to NRA members to attend their annual meetings, and both have asked the gun rights group to remove any references to their companies from the NRA website. Rental-car company Hertz said it would no longer offer a discount program to NRA members and First National Bank of Omaha, one of the nation's largest privately held banks, said it will not renew a co-branded Visa credit card it has with the NRA.

In an email Saturday, the NRA called the companies' actions "a shameful display of political and civic cowardice" and said the loss of corporate discounts and other perks "will neither scare nor distract" NRA members.

"In time, these brands will be replaced by others who recognize that patriotism and determined commitment to Constitutional freedoms are characteristics of a marketplace they very much want to serve," the NRA statement said.

The State of Florida also was facing some backlash. One of the survivors of the Florida school shooting suggested Saturday on Twitter that tourists stay away from



Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School survivors Tanzil Philip, left, is comforted by fellow student Diego Pfeiffer as Philip speaks to Leon High School students after arriving in Tallahassee, Fla., Tuesday, Feb 20, 2018.

Caller told FBI Florida shooting suspect 'going to explode'

WASHINGTON (AP)—A woman close to the man charged with killing 17 people at a Florida high school warned the FBI in chilling detail that he had a growing collection of guns and a temper so uncontrollable she worried about him "getting into a school and just shooting the place up."

The Associated Press on Friday obtained a transcript of the Jan. 5 tip to the FBI's call center. The FBI acknowledged it failed to investigate the tip about 19-year-old Nikolas Cruz, but the transcript provides the fullest glimpse yet into the seriousness of the woman's concerns.

"I know he's going to explode," she told the call-taker.

The FBI briefed congressional staff Friday about its failure to act on the alarming tip, as well as why it did not delve into a September 2017 YouTube

comment posted by a "Nikolas Cruz" that said, "Im going to be a professional school shooter." The FBI linked the January call to the report of the YouTube comment, but an FBI intake specialist and a supervisor at the call center took no further action, Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Chuck Grassley's office said Friday.

Google, which owns YouTube, also briefed congressional staffers.

The tips were among a series of what authorities now describe as the clearest missed warning signs that Cruz, who had a history of disturbing behavior, posed a serious threat. The FBI declined to comment on the transcript, which was first reported by The Wall Street Journal.

During the phone call, which spanned more than 13 minutes, the woman described a teenager prone to anger with the "mental capacity of a 12 to 14 year

old" that deteriorated after his mother died last year. She pointed the FBI to several Instagram accounts where Cruz had posted photos of sliced-up animals and rifles and ammunition he apparently purchased with money from his mother's life insurance policy.

"It's alarming to see these pictures and know what he is capable of doing and what could happen," the caller said. "He's thrown out of all these schools because he would pick up a chair and just throw it at somebody, a teacher or a student, because he didn't like the way they were talking to him."

The woman said she called the local police in Parkland, Florida, after Cruz began posting online that he wanted to kill himself. Then, she said, the threat changed to "I want to kill people." She said he had killed animals and once held his mother at rifle-point.

the state. He got an immediate response.

"Let's make a deal," tweeted David Hogg, a Stoneman Douglas student who has been a major player in the #neveragain movement. "DO NOT come to Florida for spring break unless gun legislation is passed."

Wendy Glaab, 60, of Font-hill, Ontario, Canada, was among the first to respond. "I like many Canadians travel to Florida from time to time to escape our winter. I can't speak for others but I will not be returning until meaningful gun control legislation is in place."

Glaab told The Associated Press on Saturday that her sister owns property in Fort Lauderdale and she is able to visit any time she chooses.

Members of the NRA have access to special offers from partner companies on its website, ranging from life insurance to wine clubs. But the insurance company MetLife Inc. discontinued its discount program with the NRA on Friday. Symantec Corp., the software company that makes Norton Antivirus technology, did the same. Insurer Chubb Ltd. said it is ending participation in the NRA's gun-owner insurance program, but it provided notice three months ago. The program that provided coverage for people involved in gun-related incidents or accidents had been under scrutiny by regulators over marketing issues.

Car rental company Enterprise Holdings, which also owns Alamo and National, said it was cutting off discounts for NRA member, as did Hertz.

Other companies, including Wyndham Hotels and Best Western hotels, have let social media users know they are no longer affiliated with the NRA, though they did not make clear when the partnerships ended.

Democrats release memo rebutting GOP on Russia probe

WASHINGTON (AP)—Two weeks after President Donald Trump blocked the full release of a classified Democratic memo, the House intelligence committee published a redacted version of the document that aims to counter a narrative that Republicans on the committee have promoted for months—that the FBI and Justice Department conspired against Trump as they investigated his ties to Russia.

The Democratic memo's release on Saturday was the

latest development in an extraordinary back and forth between Republicans and Democrats about the credibility of not only the multiple inquiries into links between the Trump campaign and Russia, but also about the integrity of the nation's top law enforcement agencies.

The Democratic document attempts to undercut and add context to some of the main points from a declassified Republican memo that was released earlier this month. In

that memo, Republicans took aim at the FBI and the Justice Department over the use of information compiled by British spy Christopher Steele in obtaining a secret warrant to monitor the communications of former Trump campaign foreign policy adviser Carter Page.

The GOP memo included the assertion that the FBI obtained a surveillance warrant without disclosing that Steele's anti-Trump research was funded by Democrat Hillary Clinton's

campaign and the Democratic National Committee.

The Democratic memo counters that the Justice Department disclosed "the assessed political motivation of those who hired him" and that Steele was likely hired by someone "looking for information that could be used to discredit" then-candidate Trump's campaign.

Republicans say that is not enough, since the Clinton campaign and the DNC were not named. Trump himself

seized on this point in a tweet Saturday evening: "Dem Memo: FBI did not disclose who the clients were - the Clinton Campaign and the DNC. Wow!"

The White House had objected to the Democratic memo's release, citing national security concerns on Feb. 9. That sent the Democrats back to negotiations with the FBI, which approved a redacted version on Saturday. It was then declassified and released.

Trump had no such concerns about the GOP memo, which he declassified in full

on Feb. 2 over strong objections from the FBI about the memo's accuracy.

The Democratic memo asserts that the FBI's concerns about Page long predate the compilation of memos drafted by Steele, now known as the Trump-Russia "dossier," and that the government's application to monitor Page's communications details suspicious activities he undertook during the 2016 presidential campaign. That includes a July 2016 trip to Moscow in which he gave a university commencement address.

Asia

Suspect in Filipina's death in Kuwait arrested, wife sought

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—A Lebanese man suspected in the death of a Filipina maid whose body was found stuffed in a freezer in Kuwait has been arrested, the Philippine foreign secretary said Friday.

Alan Peter Cayetano said he has told President Rodrigo Duterte about the arrest in Lebanon of Nader Essam Assaf but added that Assaf's Syrian wife, who is also a suspect in the death of Joanna Demafelis, remains at large.

The discovery of Demafelis's body on Feb. 6 in the apartment in Kuwait City, where it had reportedly been kept for more than a year, sparked outrage and refocused attention on the tragic plight of poor Filipinas toiling mostly as maids abroad. It prompted Duterte to ban the deployment of new Filipino workers to Kuwait, where many abuses have been reported.

Assaf and his wife employed Demafelis. Duterte and other officials have asked Kuwaiti authorities to hunt for the couple.



AP
Jessica, center, and Jojit Demafelis, left, siblings of Joanna Demafelis who was found dead in a freezer in Kuwait, react as the wooden casket of her remains arrives at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport Friday, Feb. 16, 2018 in suburban Pasay city, southeast of Manila, Philippines.

"Assaf's arrest is a critical first step in our quest for justice for Joanna and we are thankful to our friends in Kuwait and Lebanon for their

assistance," Cayetano said in a statement, adding that he expects Kuwait will seek Assaf's extradition.

After attending Demafelis's wake on Thursday in her hometown of Sara in the central Philippines, Duterte told reporters the ban on the deployment of Filipino workers to Kuwait would continue and could be expanded to other countries.

Duterte said Demafelis's body bore torture marks and signs that she was strangled. He said the government is conducting an assessment to "find out the places where we

deploy Filipinos and our countrymen suffer brutal treatment and human degradation."

The Philippines is a major labor exporter with about a tenth of its more than 100 million people working abroad. The workers have been called national heroes because the income they send home sustains the Southeast Asian nation's economy, accounting for about 10 percent of its annual gross domestic product.

Philippine officials are under increasing pressure to do more to monitor the safety of the workers, who are mostly maids, construction workers and laborers.

Labor Secretary Silvestre Bello III told a Senate hearing that he recalled three labor officers from Kuwait to be investigated over their failure to act on a request by Demafelis's family for help after she went missing in January last year, he said.

Administrator Hans Leo Caddac of the Overseas Workers Welfare Administration reported at least 196 Filipinos had died in Kuwait in the last two years, mostly for unspecified medical reasons but also four from suicide.

Monitoring their wellbeing is difficult due to the sheer numbers of workers but also by improper documentation. Nearly 11,000 of the more than 252,000 Filipino workers in Kuwait are there illegally or are not properly authorized.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Inmates escape Philippine jail after guard leaves

JOLO, Philippines (AP)—At least 29 detainees escaped from a jail in the southern Philippines on Saturday when a guard briefly left his post, but 17 of them were immediately captured when law enforcers fired warning shots, police said. The 12 detainees who managed to escape successfully from the police jail in Jolo town were mostly facing drug charges and were being hunted by police, troops and village guards in nearby towns, police said. The jailbreak was staged when a police guard left to take a break, but other policemen sprang to action and arrested 17 of the escapees in a melee just outside the jail, located in the Jolo townhall compound in the heart of the port town. Officials removed several policemen from their posts following the jailbreak, which was being investigated, police said. Abu Sayyaf extremists are active on Jolo Island in predominantly Muslim Sulu province, about 950 kilometers (590 miles) south of Manila, but those captured are detained in a better-secured jail in southern Zamboanga city or elsewhere. Many jailbreaks occur in the Philippines each year due to lax security and

poor prison conditions.

Speeding jeep kills 9 schoolchildren in eastern India

PATNA, India (AP)—A speeding jeep plowed through a group of schoolchildren crossing a road in eastern India on Saturday, killing nine and injuring 10 of them. The jeep first hit and injured two adult female pedestrians. While trying to escape from the spot, it hit the children, who were leaving their school on the outskirts of Muzzafarpur, a town in Bihar state, said police officer Vivek Kumar. The children range in age from 10 to 14, Kumar said. Police are looking for the jeep driver, who sped away after the accident, he said. Kumar said the injured schoolchildren and women were taken to a nearby hospital, some of them in critical condition. Muzzafarpur is 70 kilometers (45 miles) north of Patna, the state capital. More than 110,000 people are killed annually in accidents on India's roads. Most crashes are attributed to reckless driving, poorly maintained roads and aging vehicles.

Officials say suicide bomber kills 2 in Afghan capital

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)—A suicide bomb-

er killed at least two and wounded seven in an attack claimed by the Islamic State group in the diplomatic area of Afghanistan's capital on Saturday, and at least 18 soldiers died in an attack on a checkpoint by Taliban insurgents in the country's west, authorities said. Interior Ministry spokesman Najib Danish said the Kabul attack took place in the Shash Darak area near NATO headquarters and not far from the U.S. Embassy. Danish said the initial casualty count could rise. The Islamic State group in a statement on its website claimed responsibility. U.S. Gen. John Nicholson, commander of Resolute Support Mission in Afghanistan, said at a news conference he expected IS to continue such attacks. "We will work hard with our Afghan security counterparts and teammates to help protect the civilians of Afghanistan as much as possible," he said. In western Farah province, at least 18 soldiers were killed when their checkpoint came under attack by Taliban insurgents, said Dawlat Waziri, spokesman for the Defense Ministry. He said two other soldiers were wounded in the attack in the Bala Buluk district. Qari Yusouf Ahmadi, a Taliban spokesman, claimed responsibility for the attack in a statement.

6 months after attacks began, Rohingya see no end in sight

DHAKA, Bangladesh (AP)—Their houses are often made of plastic sheets. Much of their food comes from aid agencies. Jobs are few, and there is painfully little to do. The nightmares are relentless.

But six months after their horrors began, the Rohingya Muslims who fled army attacks in Myanmar for refuge in Bangladesh feel one immense consolation.

"Nobody is coming to kill us, that's for sure," said Mohammed Amanullah, whose village was destroyed last year just before he left for Bangladesh with his wife and three children. They now live in the Kutupalong refugee camp outside the coastal city of Cox's Bazar. "We have peace here."

On Aug. 25, Rohingya insurgents attacked several security posts in Myanmar, killing at least 14 people. Within hours, waves of revenge attacks broke out, with the military and Buddhist mobs marauding through Rohingya villages in bloody pogroms, killing thousands, raping women and girls, and

burning houses and whole villages. The aid group Doctors Without Borders has estimated at least 6,700 Rohingya were killed in Myanmar in the first month of the violence, including at least 730 children younger than 5. The survivors flooded into Bangladesh.

Six months later, there are few signs Rohingya are going home anytime soon.

Myanmar and Bangladesh have signed an agreement to gradually repatriate Rohingya in "safety, security and dignity," but the process has been opaque and the dangers remain. New satellite images have shown empty villages and hamlets leveled, erasing evidence of the Rohingyas' former lives. And with 700,000 having fled Myanmar since August, more Rohingya continue to flee.

So for now, the refugees wait.

"If they agree to send us back that's fine, but is it that easy?" asked Amanullah. "Myanmar must give us citizenship. That is our home. Without citizenship they will

torture us again. They will kill us again."

He said he would only return under the protection of U.N. peacekeepers: "They must take care of us there. Otherwise it will not work."

Buddhist-majority Myanmar doesn't recognize the Rohingya as an official ethnic group and they face intense discrimination and persecution.

The children in the camps face a particularly difficult time. The U.N. estimates children are the heads of 5,600 refugee families.

A survey of children's lives inside the camps showed they faced an array of terrors, from girls reporting concerns of harassments near the camp toilets to fears that elephants and snakes could attack them as they collect firewood.

"We cannot expect Rohingya children to overcome the traumatic experiences they've suffered when exposed to further insecurity and fears of violence in the camps," Mark Pierce, country director for Save the Children in Bangladesh, said in a statement.

World

Avant-garde mosque angers hard-liners in Iran

TEHRAN, Iran (AP)—A newly built avant-garde mosque in the heart of Iran's capital would have hard-liners shouting from the minarets—if there were any.

The architects behind the Vali-e-Asr mosque dispensed with the traditional rounded domes and towering minarets, opting instead for a modern design of undulating waves of gray stone and concrete, which they say complements the surrounding architecture and evokes the austerity of early Islam.

The new structure has infuriated hard-liners, who see it as part of a creeping secular onslaught on the Islamic republic. An editorial posted on the Mashregh news website compared the curvature to that of a Jewish yarmulke, accusing authorities of “treason” for approving it. The “completely neutral” design betrays an “atheistic approach,” it said.

The mosque has emerged as the latest battleground in a longstanding culture war between hard-liners and Iran's vibrant artistic community, which has hoped—often in vain—for greater openness since President Hassan Rouhani, a relative moderate, was elected in 2013.

The 25,000-square-meter (270,000 sq. feet) structure rises smoothly from a major



In this Wednesday, Feb. 7, 2018, photo, Reza Daneshmir, right, gestures as he talks with his wife Catherine Spiridonoff, both architects of Vali-e-Asr mosque, while they walk on one of the mosque's ramps, in Tehran, Iran.

intersection, in a popular shopping area near Tehran University that also hosts cultural and artistic events. It's adjacent to the City Theater of Tehran, an iconic building dating back to before the 1979 Islamic Revolution, and the mosque includes its own library, read-

ing halls, classrooms and amphitheater.

Reza Daneshmir, one of the architects, said he struggled for months before finally convincing authorities that a traditional mosque would look out of place at the site. He even argued his case before a par-

liamentary committee.

City officials “objected and said it did not look like a mosque, did not resemble the conventional form of a mosque, and that it couldn't be done,” he said. “I explained who the real audiences of this mosque are,” he said, referring to the young, bohemian Irani-

ans who frequent the neighborhood. “I finally succeeded in persuading them.”

“We wanted it to be an avant-garde project, not a conservative and backward one,” he added.

He and his co-designer, Catherine Spiridonoff, point out that mosques come in

many shapes and sizes, and that the first mosque ever built, at the time of the Prophet Muhammad, was a simple structure without domes or minarets.

The dome structure, which had been used in pagan and Christian architecture for centuries before the arrival of Islam, was only adopted later, as were minarets. In the past, a muezzin would climb a spiral staircase to the top of the minaret five times a day to call the faithful to prayer, but that practice has all but disappeared across the Muslim world, where most mosques are now equipped with loudspeakers.

Those arguments carry little weight with Iran's hard-liners and conservatives, who fear that the questioning of traditional structures—including the concrete variety—could erode the foundations of the Islamic republic. Mashregh says the architects sacrificed traditional design “at the foot of the City Theater.”

The structure was nevertheless completed, after 10 years and at a cost of \$16 million. It is expected to be opened to the public within the coming months.

Nima Borzouie, an 18-year-old student, acknowledged that he was initially unaware the building included a mosque, but said he approved of the idea.

Damascus suburb strikes kill scores, UN votes for cease-fire

BEIRUT (AP)—A new wave of airstrikes and shelling on eastern suburbs of the Syrian capital Damascus left at least 22 people dead and dozens wounded Saturday, raising the death toll of a week of bombing in the area to 500, as the U.N. Security Council unanimously approved a resolution demanding a 30-day cease-fire across Syria.

The weeklong bombardment has overwhelmed rescuers and doctors at makeshift hospitals, many of which have also been bombed. Activists say that terrified residents have been hiding in underground shelters where dozens of people can be crammed into small places.

The latest wave of bombings came after the U.N. Security Council delayed a vote on a resolution demanding a 30-day humanitarian cease-fire for two days to try to get Russia on board.

Russia's U.N. Ambassador Vassily Nebeniza had repeatedly called an immediate cease-fire unrealistic.

In a bid to get Russian support, sponsors Kuwait and Sweden amended the draft

resolution late Friday to drop a demand that the cease-fire take effect 72 hours after the resolution's adoption.

After two hours of additional negotiations on Saturday, the Security Council unanimously approved a resolution demanding a 30-day cease-fire across Syria “without delay” to deliver humanitarian aid to millions and evacuate the critically ill and wounded.

“The U.N. convoys and evacuation teams are ready to go,” Sweden's U.N. Ambassador Olof Skoog told the council just before the vote.

After the vote, many council members urged stepped up efforts to ensure a cease-fire and get assistance to millions in need.

Russia has been a main backer of Syrian President Bashar Assad since the country's conflict began seven years ago. In 2015, Moscow joined the war on Assad's side tipping the balance of power in his favor.

Syrian opposition activists say Russian warplanes are taking part in bombarding Damascus suburbs known as eastern Ghouta, where many

people are hiding in underground shelters with little food and medical supplies amid a tight government siege.

“There is no electricity, no water, no flour, no bread and no baby formula,” said paramedic Siraj Mahmoud in an audio message calling for a short break in airstrikes so residents can get food for their children. “There is nothing inside Ghouta.”

Syrian opposition activists said that government forces used phosphorous bombs in their attacks on the suburbs, but the claims could not be independently confirmed.

The Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said airstrikes that hit several suburbs left 22 people dead in different areas, including 10 in the suburb of Douma.

The opposition's Syrian Civil Defense, also known as the White Helmets, said 23 people were killed.

The Observatory said that since the latest wave of bombardment began Sunday, 510 civilians, including 127 children and 75 women, have been killed in eastern Ghouta.

WORLD BRIEFS

Death toll from twin blasts in Somalia's capital rises to 21

MOGADISHU, Somalia (AP)—Authorities say the death toll in a pair of explosions Friday evening in Somalia's capital has risen to 21. The director of Aamin Ambulance service, Dr. Abdirahman Abdulqadir, gave the new toll Saturday. It was confirmed by police Capt. Mohamed Hussein, who said it was based on figures from hospitals. The two car bomb blasts shattered a months-long period of calm in Mogadishu, which is often the target of attacks by the al-Shabab extremist group. The first blast occurred near Somalia's intelligence headquarters and the second occurred near parliament's headquarters. The Somalia-based al-Shabab claimed responsibility for the attack via its radio arm, Andalus. Mogadishu was the target of a truck bombing in October that killed 512 people in the deadliest attack in the Horn of Africa nation's history.

Iraq's ethnic, religious groups fragmented as elections near

BAGHDAD (AP)—Iraq is growing even more fragmented ahead of national elections in May, with Iranian influence growing and the minority Sunnis seething as they fend for themselves in areas of the country shattered by the three-year war against the Islamic State group. The Sunnis, many in displacement camps, bore the brunt of the war's destruction. If they don't end up feeling the vote was fair, that could badly undermine the in-

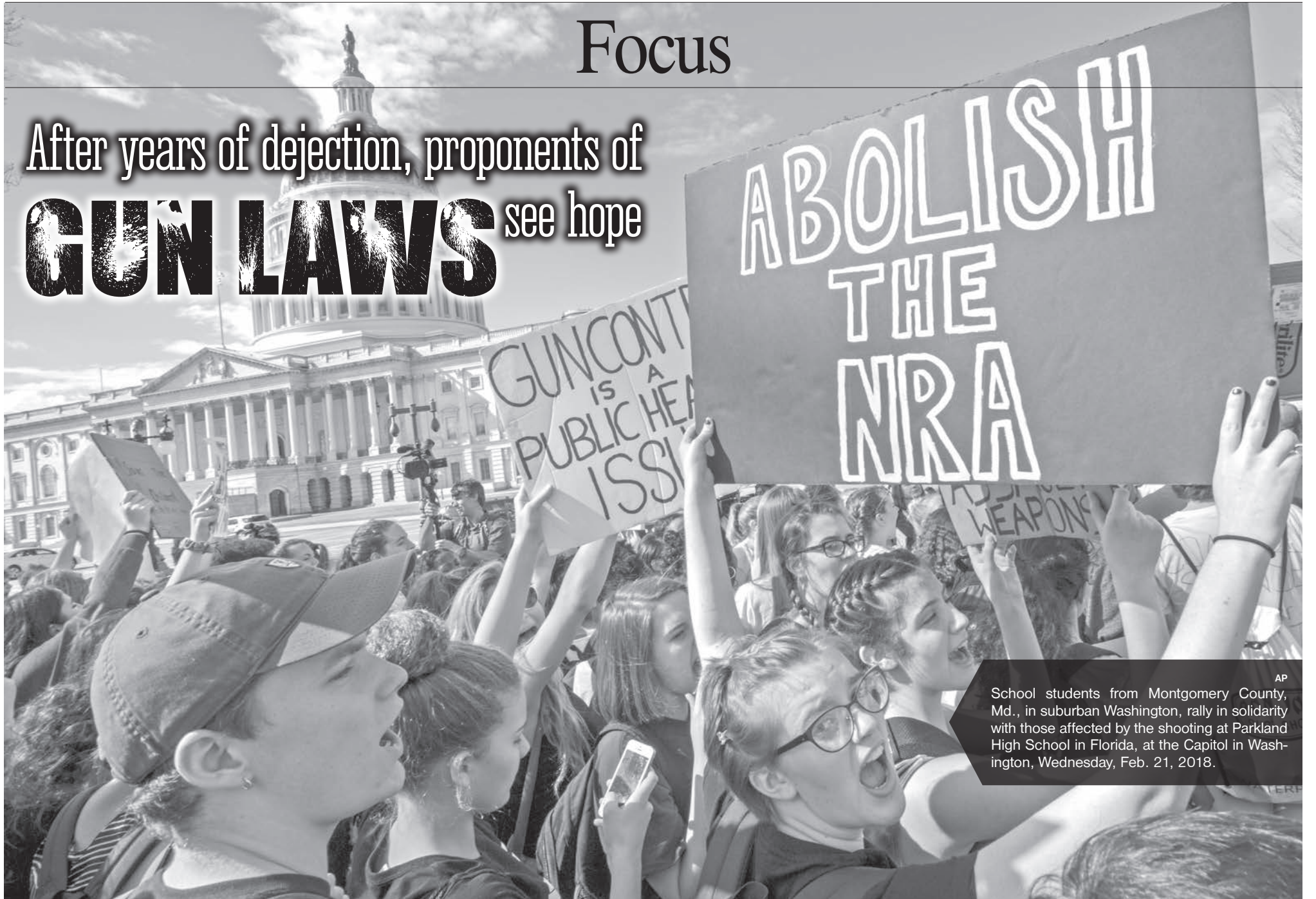
ternational community's goal of bringing about a more inclusive government, which is critical to avoiding a repeat of the IS disaster. Adding to the volatile mix are the Iranian-backed Shiite militias, allied with but not controlled by the Shiite-led Baghdad government, whose gaining influence could alarm many in the region trying to check the power of the Shiite, non-Arab Iran.

Colombia extradites major drug suspect to US

BOGOTA, Colombia (AP)—A suspected drug chief known as the “Pablo Escobar of Ecuador” was extradited to the United States on Saturday, Colombia's chief prosecutor's office announced. Washington Edison Prado had tried unsuccessfully to prevent extradition by claiming membership in the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia—a status that would have made him eligible for a type of amnesty under a peace deal. The prosecutor's office said in a statement that Prado was escorted by a detail of 50 commandos and agents of various police agencies as he was turned over to U.S. authorities. U.S. officials accuse Prado, also known by the alias “Gerald,” of shipping more than 250 tons of cocaine to the United States. Police say he ran the most sophisticated smuggling route on the Pacific coast of South America, and they compared it to Escobar's Medellin cartel of three decades ago because of it sought to dominate the entire cocaine supply chain from production to its distribution in the U.S. Police say his group sent as many as 10 go-fast boats a week, each carrying around a ton of cocaine.

Focus

After years of dejection, proponents of GUN LAWS see hope



AP
School students from Montgomery County, Md., in suburban Washington, rally in solidarity with those affected by the shooting at Parkland High School in Florida, at the Capitol in Washington, Wednesday, Feb. 21, 2018.

By **MATT SEDENSKY** and **TERRY SPENCER**
ASSOCIATED PRESS

P**ARKLAND, Fla.** (AP)—The progression has become numbingly repetitive—mass bloodshed unleashed by a gunman, followed by the stories of the fallen, the funerals, the mourning, the talking heads and the calls for change that dwindle into nothingness.

The shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School, though, has some pondering the improbable: Could this latest carnage actually lead to gun reforms?

Alongside the familiar refrains stemming from earlier shootings, the Feb. 14 attack in Parkland, Florida, came with something else: young survivors immediately pleading for nationwide action. They have led walk-outs, confronted politicians and garnered the support of celebrities, linking their sorrowful, eloquent, outraged voices to the gun debate.

“Our kids have started a revolution,” Stoneman Douglas teacher Diane Wolk Rogers said during a CNN-sponsored forum Wednesday.

In the aftermath of the violence that claimed 17 lives, students have piled into bus-

es and crashed a meeting of lawmakers in Tallahassee. They’ve relentlessly badgered Florida Sen. Marco Rubio about his support from the National Rifle Association. They’ve rejected President Trump’s condolences, calling for action over words.

To many advocates for gun control, the moment feels more profound than any since the aftermath of the 2012 shooting at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Connecticut, where 20 first-graders and six adults were fatally shot, spurring the most serious congressional gun debate in years.

“The mantra just became if we couldn’t do it after Newtown, if we couldn’t do it after however many 6-year-olds were killed, it’s never going to happen,” said Dave Cullen, the author of “Columbine,” which chronicles the 1999 shooting at the Colorado high school of the same name.

“Then this happened,” Cullen said, “and everything changed.”

Parkland is a well-to-do suburb, with a median household income more than twice the national average. Stoneman Douglas is a top-tier public school under the state rating system, where most students take advanced-placement classes and the curriculum includes yoga and culinary arts.

Charles Zelden, a professor

of history and political science at Nova Southeastern University in nearby Fort Lauderdale, said the students speaking out in the shooting’s aftermath “come from a tradition of being heard and are angry enough right now that they won’t stand for not being heard.”

“They’re used to the idea that they’re going to make a difference, that people are going to listen to them,” Zelden said.

Cullen wonders whether the Parkland attack indicates that it’s not the number of deaths or level of outrage that a shooting evokes, but “whether it’s the right group of people with the right standing and the right set of abilities that picks up the ball and runs with it.”

He’s been awed that the tragedy produced not just one well-spoken young student activist, but a deep bench of them.

Emma Gonzalez stirred a huge crowd with shouts of “Shame on you!” directed at lawmakers. David Hogg has emerged as a media star, giving poised interview after interview. Sarah Chadwick, whose angry tweet to Trump went viral, stirred those gathered in the state Capitol rotunda with what she promised was a revolution on behalf of fallen friends.

“Never again should a child be afraid to go to school,” she said. “Never again should students have to protest for their

lives.”

Andy Pelosi, a co-chair of the Florida Coalition to Prevent Gun Violence, has spent the past two decades fighting for gun control and watching in despair as a stream of tragedies seemed to bring little meaningful change. He, likewise, was struck by students’ collective response.

“I’d like to think this is different,” Pelosi said, noting that the students’ impassioned actions are helping galvanize a movement, even if they face formidable odds.

“And if you look at our history, the main social movements in our country have been fueled by students,” Pelosi said.

In matching a \$500,000 donation by George and Amal Clooney to the students’ planned marches against gun violence, Oprah Winfrey compared the teens to the Freedom Riders of the 1960s, who rode buses into southern states in protest of racial segregation—and others shared that sentiment.

Jacob Udo-Udo Jacob, a professor at Dickinson College in Pennsylvania who studies social media-fueled activism, said the students have a chance to stir something equally profound.

Jacob cited Rosa Parks’ arrest in the fight for civil rights and street vendor Mohamed Bouazizi’s self-immolation in

Tunisia, which led to the Arab Spring.

“Any movement, historically, it’s down to narratives, how the movement is framed,” Jacob said.

The teens don’t agree on all issues, but most want AR-15s banned and the age for buying rifles in Florida raised to 21, as it is for handguns. Many want all semi-automatic rifles banned. Uniformly, they want stronger background checks so people like the 19-year-old shooter, who was known to be mentally unstable and violent, cannot buy guns.

Their message seems to already be having at least some effect, with Trump, Rubio and Gov. Rick Scott all taking some steps toward greater gun regulation. Rubio said his visit to Stoneman Douglas is what prompted him to change his stance on large-capacity magazines.

Alongside the reasons for hope, though, have been signs of the tough road ahead.

Some conservatives have portrayed the teens as pawns being exploited to take away constitutional rights, with the NRA insisting that liberals want to ban all guns. Far-right voices have even sought to advance the lie that some of the students are “crisis actors,” essentially paid puppets helping advance an anti-gun agenda.

“Everything they’re doing

is right out of the Democrat Party’s various playbooks,” Rush Limbaugh said of the students on his show Monday.

To Dr. Allen Konis, whose son is a freshman at Stoneman Douglas, the students are so inspiring that “even their enemies are taking notice.” “They are worried, and they should be,” Konis said, “because they are going to start a real movement in this country.”

After watching Virginia Tech and Orlando and Las Vegas and so many other places become mile markers in the thwarted march to pass significant federal gun laws, the voices of Parkland’s teens are bringing hope to advocates craving change.

“Nobody’s going to stop these kids,” said Mike McFadden, a 59-year-old retired police officer who drove several hours from his home in Indialantic to visit Stoneman Douglas, where a makeshift memorial of 17 white crosses is surrounded by mounds of flowers.

Alissa Parker, who co-founded Safe and Sound Schools after her daughter Emilie was killed at Sandy Hook, said the Stoneman Douglas students simply want to feel safe. It makes her remember how Emilie would run to protect her little sisters if they ever felt scared.

“I look at them,” Parker said, “and I’m inspired.”

Health & Fitness

HOME REMEDIES:

Lifestyle affects your heart health

Lifestyle, like diet and exercise, plays a major impact on your heart health.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Heat disease can be improved—or even prevented—by making certain lifestyle changes. The following changes can help anyone who wants to improve heart health:

Stop smoking. Smoking is a major risk factor for heart disease, especially atherosclerosis. Quitting is the best way to reduce your risk of heart disease and its complications.

Control your blood pressure. Ask your doctor for a blood pressure measurement at least every two years. He or she may recommend more frequent measurements if your blood pressure is higher than normal or you have a history of heart disease. Optimal blood pressure is less than 120 systolic and 80 diastolic, as measured in millimeters of mercury (mm Hg).

Check your cholesterol. Ask your doctor for a baseline cholesterol test when you're in your 20s and then at least every five years. You may need to start testing earlier if high cholesterol is in your family. If your test results aren't within desirable ranges, your doctor may recommend more frequent measurements. Most people should aim for an LDL level below 130 milligrams per deciliter (mg/dL), or 3.4 millimoles per liter (mmol/L). If you have other risk factors for heart disease, you should aim for an LDL below 100 mg/dL (2.6 mmol/L). If you're at very high risk of heart disease—if you've already had a heart attack or have diabetes, for example—

aim for an even lower LDL level—below 70 mg/dL (1.8 mmol/L).

Keep diabetes under control. If you have diabetes, tight blood sugar control can help reduce the risk of heart disease.

Move. Exercise helps you achieve and maintain a healthy weight and control diabetes, elevated cholesterol and high blood pressure—all risk factors for heart disease. If you have a heart arrhythmia or heart defect, there may be some restrictions on the activities you can do, so talk to your doctor. With your doctor's OK, aim for 30 to 60 minutes of physical activity most days of the week.

Eat healthy foods. A heart-healthy diet based on fruits, vegetables and whole grains—and low in saturated fat, cholesterol, sodium and added sugar—can help you control your weight, blood pressure and cholesterol.

Maintain a healthy weight. Being overweight increases your risk of heart disease. A BMI of less than 25 and a waist circumference of 35 inches (88.9 centimeters) or less is the goal for preventing and treating heart disease.

Manage stress. Reduce stress as much as possible. Practice techniques for managing stress, such as muscle relaxation and deep breathing.

Deal with depression. Being depressed can increase your risk of heart disease significantly. Talk to your doctor if you feel hopeless or uninterested in your life.

Practice good hygiene. Stay away from people with infectious diseases such as colds, get

vaccinated against the flu, regularly wash your hands, and brush and floss your teeth regularly to keep yourself well.

Also, get regular medical checkups. Early detection and treatment can set the stage for a lifetime of better heart health.

COPING AND SUPPORT

You may feel frustrated, upset or overwhelmed upon learning you or your loved one has heart disease. Fortunately, there are ways to help cope with heart disease or improve your condition. These include:

Cardiac rehabilitation. For people who have cardiovascular disease that's caused a heart attack or has required surgery to correct, cardiac rehabilitation is often recommended as a way to improve treatment and speed recovery. Cardiac rehabilitation involves levels of monitored exercise, nutritional counseling, emotional support, and support and education about lifestyle changes to reduce your risk of heart problems.

Support groups. Turning to friends and family for support is essential, but if you need more help, talk to your doctor about joining a support group. You may find that talking about your concerns with others with similar difficulties can help.

Continued medical checkups. If you have a recurring or chronic heart condition, regularly check in with your doctor to make sure you're properly managing your heart condition. (Mayo Clinic News Network/TNS)

Personal Trainer

Common exercise myths

These are the most common misconceptions that professional fitness trainers say they hear from their clients:



Weightlifting gives women big muscles

Fact: Women usually don't have enough of the hormone testosterone to develop bulging muscles



"Spot reducing" is possible

Fact: Focused exercises can't "burn fat off" from a specific body part; regular exercise and good diet reduce body fat generally



"No pain, no gain"

Fact: Exercising to the point of pain can do more harm than good; productive exercises may be uncomfortable, but should not be painful



Exercise and you can eat whatever you want

Fact: It's not so; to reach and maintain a healthy weight, eat fruits and vegetables, avoid processed high-sugar foods and eat moderate portions



Exercise takes a major time commitment

Fact: Any amount of regular exercise enhances health and well-being; 30 minutes a day helps maintain good health

There's a magic bullet or quick fix out there

Fact: There is none; many nutritional supplements and fad diets are marketed deceptively



Source: Survey of 1,500 fitness professionals by American Council on Exercise
Graphic: Paul Trap, Tribune News Service

Life & Style

Janney thought film acclaim eluded her—then came ‘I Tonya’

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The Academy Awards seem like formality when it comes to the best supporting actress category this year.

Since the world devoured Allison Janney’s brilliantly acidic performance as Tonya Harding’s abusive mother in “I, Tonya,” she has won nearly every major award she’s been up for, including a BAFTA, a Screen Actors Guild award, a Golden Globe and a Critics’ Choice prize.

Perhaps the only surprising fact is that this is the first Oscar nomination ever for the 58-year-old actress, who has seven Emmy and Screen Actors Guild Awards to her name (and two Tony nominations). Though she has been in Oscar-winning movies such as “Juno” and “The Help,” the attention for those films did not revolve around her.

“I kind of thought maybe this moment had eluded me in my career, that I just wasn’t getting the kind of roles in films that were giving me, getting me recognition,” Janney reflected recently at the Oscars nominees’ luncheon.

And it’s all thanks to her longtime friend, screenwriter Steven Rogers, who had the idea to seek out the life rights to Tonya Harding’s story. He had two demands for whoever was going to help get the movie made: First, no one was allowed to rewrite him. Second, Janney was to play LaVona Golden. He’d known Janney for decades, since he met her at New York’s Neighborhood Playhouse School of the Theater when he was only 17 (she’s just a few years older than him), and had written parts for her before. But it hadn’t worked out yet.

“I said, ‘I want it in writing or it’s a deal breaker.’ I said it before she had even read the script or even said she would do it,” Rogers said. “But I knew. I was like, ‘This time I’m finally going to get her.’”

It might not seem like the most flattering thing to have your good friend think of you as the chain-smoking, bitter, abusive and overall controversial matriarch to the most infamous figure skater in history, who tells her young daughter to “skate wet” after she pees her pants on the ice, and regularly hits her. But Janney was thrilled.

“I’ve played a lot of mothers in my life,” Janney, who stars as a recovering alcoholic on the CBS sitcom “Mom,” said late last year. “But never anyone to the degree that this one was messed up.”

Rogers, who used accounts of Tonya Harding and her ex-husband Jeff Gillooly to inform the screenplay and story, never actually met LaVona Golden while he was writing the script. Harding told him that she didn’t know if her mother was dead or alive (she is alive and continues to deny abuse allegations).

Thus the character in “I, Tonya” is based on an amalgamation of interviews, documentary footage from 1986 (in which LaVona conducts her interview with a bird on her shoulder), stories from Harding and Gillooly and some artistic license.

“It’s a pretty hard character and I hope the reason he wanted me to play her was because I would try my hardest ... to find her humanity,” Janney said. “A lot of that was written in what Steven wrote in the direct address to the camera. That gave me a lot of

clues as to who she was. She’s her a human being, not just an on the page monster.”

Every penny she made went to her daughter’s skating. She sees herself as a woman who tried her hardest to give her daughter a better life than she had. Those scenes helped me find her humanity, helped me find what made



Janney

For Janney, the experience of disappearing behind this woman who never smiles and never apologizes was liberating. And she found the nuance behind the steely exterior.

“My heart broke a little for her watching all

these interviews because I could see under her denial, the hurt that’s there,” Janney said. When someone says ‘I don’t care, I could care less that we don’t talk on the phone,’ it’s like, ‘of course you do.’”

She even enjoyed the test of acting while trying to ignore the bird perched on her shoulder for the scenes where she’s talking directly to the camera, in what she

describes as the “Defending Your Life” sequence.

“It’s like the bird heard me and said, ‘Oh yeah?’ Let’s see if you can ignore me when I’m putting my head in your ear,” Janney said. “I thought this is exactly the kind of humor that is perfect for this movie. I kind of loved it; as much as it was irritating me, it was also fueling me as I was trying to get my side of the story across.”

The language of ‘Black Panther’? It’s real.

JOHANNESBURG (AP)— Much of what is seen in “Black Panther” is fictional, including the country where the movie is based. But in Wakanda, they do speak a language that is very much real, with distinctive click sounds that had some cast members struggling to speak it.

“The clicks are no joke,” Oscar-winning actress Lupita Nyong’o said recently, calling isiXhosa “one of the hardest languages on the planet.”

The idea to use isiXhosa, one of South Africa’s 11 official languages, in the blockbuster came from South African actor and cast member John Kani. Kani plays the father of the king T’Challa, played by Chadwick Boseman.

Now, in the wake of “Black Panther,” the language is having a moment. Even the foundation of Nobel Peace Prize-winner and anti-apartheid activist Desmond Tutu, who rarely makes public statements these days at the age of 86, pointed out this week on Twitter: “Archbishop Tutu comes from a #Xhosa background as well.”

Some South Africans at the film’s Johannesburg premiere said it was humbling to hear isiXhosa spoken in a major Hollywood film, even if they found the accents of some actors a little eyebrow-raising.

“I’m not so impressed, but they tried,” said South African reality TV star Blue Mbombo with a good-natured smile.

In Humble Gratitude

†**JOHN
EVANGELISTA**

We wish to express our sincere gratitude and appreciation to all our family and friends for the genuine words of sympathy, the unselfish assistance and donations you all have extended us during our time of sorrow and need, but most especially for your presence, thoughts and prayers for our dearly beloved +John.

Our deepest appreciation goes out to Pale Jesse T. Reyes and Pale Ike Ayuyu for presiding over the Mass of Christian Burial and to our Techa Juan L. Aguon for leading the rosary. We would also like to thank Santa Soledad Choir, Thaddeus Choir and Maggie Sablan for the beautiful serenade at the Funeral, Frank Cabrera and Cabrera Funeral Home for the coordination and beautiful service.

A special thank you to Honorable Governor Ralph Dlg. Torres, Senator Arnold I. Palacios, Justo Quitugua, Mayor David Apatang, Mayor's Office, Representative Jonathan Blas, Representative Donald Barcinas, Representative Larry DLG., Representative Francis Aguon, Mike Tenorio, Representative Ed Propst, James and Maryann Reyes, Senator Sixto Igisomar, Jose Guerrero, Representative Angel Demapan, Ms. Angela David, Natibu's Kitchen, Tan Holdings Corporation, Cancer Association, EMS, and NMPASI for the support and assistance you've extended us throughout the days leading up to the funeral.

Our sincerest appreciation goes out to the doctors and nurses at CHCC and Marianas Health Services for the care and compassion extended to our beloved.

To all those who have helped us in one way or another, your presence, compassion, and generosity will always be remembered.

Thank you and Si Yuus Maase.

Evangelista - Indalecio Family

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Trump says he goes to great lengths to hide his bald spot

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Donald Trump says he goes to great lengths to hide the bald



Trump

spot revealed in a recent photo. Speaking before the Conservative Political Action Conference Friday, Trump turned around on-stage and smoothed the back of his famous hair. He said, "I try like hell to hide that bald spot, folks." The crowd cheered as Trump glanced at a monitor and added, "Doesn't look bad. Hey, we're hanging in." During the 2016 campaign, Trump let a woman tug the hair on top of his head to prove it is attached. The president's bald spot was exposed Feb. 2 when he turned away from cameras to climb aboard Air Force One. As Trump climbed the stairs, a wind gust blew aside a flap of hair.

British comedian Stephen Fry reveals he has prostate cancer

LONDON (AP)—British comedian and actor Stephen Fry has revealed that he is suffering from prostate cancer. The 60-year-old Fry said Friday on his Twitter page that he has been fighting the disease for the past two months. He says he had surgery in January to remove the prostate. "It all seemed to go pretty well," he said, apologizing for his inability to talk about the cancer until now.

"For the last two months I've been in the throes of a rather unwellcome and unexpected adventure," he says. Fry is a versatile actor with many film and TV credits who has also been a frequent presenter and host at the British Academy film awards. He has in the past disclosed suffering from depression.

Finalists announced for Lukas Book Prize

NEW YORK (AP)—Stories of immigrants, transient workers and a Wisconsin auto plant are among the nominees for the J. Anthony Lukas Book Prize. The \$10,000 award honors nonfiction books of both literary quality and social impact. The finalists announced Friday include Helen Thorpe's "The Newcomers: Finding Refuge, Friendship, and Hope in an American Classroom," Jessica Bruder's "Nomadland: Surviving America in the Twenty-First Century" and Amy Goldstein's "Janesville: An American Story." The other nominees are Nate Blakeslee's "American Wolf: A True Story of Survival and Obsession in the West" and Lauren Markham's "The Far Away Brothers: Two Young Migrants and the Making of an American Life." The Lukas prize, named for the late author and journalist, is presented by the Columbia Graduate School of Journalism and the Nieman Foundation for Journalism at Harvard University. The Columbia school and Nieman also announced finalists for the J. Anthony Lukas Work-In-Progress Award, which provides \$25,000 grants to two authors currently working on a "significant" nonfiction book, and the \$10,000 Mark Lynton History Prize, for which nominees include Frances Fitzgerald's "The Evangelicals" and Jonathan Eig's Muhammad Ali biography "Ali." Other Lynton finalists are Edward L. Ayers' Civil War history "The Thin Light of Freedom," Caroline Fraser's Laura Ingalls Wilder biography "Prairie Fires" and Stephen Kotkin's "Stalin."

French customs officials find stolen Degas in luggage on bus

PARIS (AP)—French customs officers have found an impressionist painting by Edgar Degas stowed on a bus, more than eight years after

it was reported stolen. The French Culture Ministry said Friday that customs agents in Marne-la-Vallee were surprised to find a work of art bearing the signature "Degas" inside a suitcase in the bus' luggage compartment. The ministry says none of the passengers claimed the suitcase during the Feb. 16 search. Experts verified the artwork as Degas' "Les Choristes" ("The Chorus Singers"), which depicts a scene from Mozart's opera "Don Giovanni." The painting was stolen from a Marseille museum in 2009 while on loan from Paris' Musee d'Orsay. French Culture Minister Francoise Nyssen said she was delighted by the recovery of a work "whose disappearance represented a heavy loss for the French impressionist heritage."

HFPA investigating actor Brendan Fraser's groping claim

The Hollywood Foreign Press Association says it is investigating actor Brendan Fraser's claim that its former president, Philip Berk, groped him in 2003. Fraser, 49, best known for his role in "The Mummy" trilogy, made the accusation in an interview with GQ magazine. A statement from the HFPA, the organization that puts on the Golden Globes, says the interview "includes alleged information that the HFPA was previously unaware of" and is looking into the accusation. It also stresses that the organization has long had what it calls "a positive working relationship" with Fraser. Attempts to find a working phone number for Berk were unsuccessful. (AP)

HBO biopic about Penn State's Joe Paterno premieres April 7

NEW YORK (AP)—An HBO biopic starring Al Pacino as late Penn State football coach Joe Paterno will premiere April 7. HBO tweeted the

premiere date Friday, along with a trailer to the film directed by Barry Levinson. HBO has said the film will focus on Paterno dealing with fallout from the child sex abuse scandal involving former assistant coach Jerry Sandusky. The all-time winningest coach in major college football history was fired days after Sandusky's 2011 arrest and died two months later at age 85. A report commissioned by the university and conducted by a team led by former FBI Director Louis Freeh concluded Paterno and three administrators hushed up the allegations against Sandusky. The three administrators were sentenced to jail. Former university President Graham Spanier is appealing his conviction.

Man says he kicked Chevy Chase in self-defense in dispute

SOUTH NYACK, N.Y. (AP)—A New York man says he kicked Chevy Chase in self-defense after the comedian climbed into a vehicle and tried to punch him during a profanity-laced traffic dispute.

Chase told police he was cut off by another driver on Feb. 9. Thinking his car might be damaged, he followed the car across the Gov. Mario M. Cuomo Bridge. Both drivers pulled over in South Nyack (NY'-ak). A truck passenger, Michael Landrio, tells the New York Post that the former "Saturday Night Live" star got into their vehicle and tried to punch him. Landrio says that's when he kicked Chase, sending him flying. A spokeswoman for Chase says the actor didn't get into the vehicle and didn't try to attack Landrio. Landrio was charged with harassment. Chase was not charged.

Judge dismisses coal company suit against HBO's John Oliver

MOUNDSVILLE, W.Va. (AP)—A West Virginia judge has dismissed

a lawsuit brought by coal company Murray Energy against HBO host John Oliver. A segment of Oliver's Sunday show "Last Week Tonight" in June poked fun at Murray Energy CEO Robert Murray, who blames regulatory efforts by the Obama administration for damaging the coal industry. Oliver said the 77-year-old looked like a "geriatric Dr. Evil." A Circuit Court judge in Marshall County, West Virginia, ruled on Wednesday that Murray's company failed to state a claim. The two-page ruling from Senior Judge Jeffrey Cramer was posted online by The Hollywood Reporter. The Ohio-based company was seeking financial damages and a court order barring rebroadcasts of the segment's "defamatory statements." HBO had argued the show didn't violate Murray Energy's rights or those of Murray.

Brown University to pay tuition for future actors, directors

PROVIDENCE, R.I. (AP)—Brown University is providing scholarships to cover the tuition for all master's degree students studying acting and directing. The Ivy League university in Rhode Island announced the change Friday. It says it wants to ease student debt, diversify the pool of actors and directors in training, encourage innovation in the arts and ultimately redefine whose stories are told on stage. The university will begin providing the funds in the 2018-2019 academic year for students in the Brown/Trinity Rep master of fine arts programs in acting and directing.

The university anticipates 40 to 50 students will receive the scholarships, which also will be extended to future students. Patricia Ybarra chairs Brown's theatre arts and performance studies department. She says even successful artists often can't repay debt, which deters students from low-income and middle-income families from applying to MFA programs.

Work leaves single mom with little time for son

DEAR ABBY: I'm 29. I had a son six years ago and left my ex because he didn't want to be a father. He chose to party instead. I had to file a name change for my son, and custody was hard to fight for because the father refused to show up.

Since then, I've worked two and sometimes three jobs just to stay ahead. My child hardly sees me. I work so much that my son has stopped calling me "Mommy" and instead calls me by my name. I feel hopeless and that I'm working for nothing. Have I made a mistake working so much?

MOMMY IN MARYLAND

DEAR MOMMY: If you are working those long hours in order to pay your bills, you are doing what a parent is supposed to do—providing for your child. Because your ex isn't doing his share, get on the internet and research "child support for single mothers." Resources are available to help you.

As to your son no longer calling you "Mommy," I would have to ask where he got the idea he would call you anything else. (Have you asked him?) Rather than accept it, make clear that he has only one mommy, you are it, and you will not tolerate being called anything else.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: I've been seeing someone for six or seven months, but we have been together for only three. He's quite the package, except he can't handle confrontation and doesn't

communicate well. His way of handling uncomfortable conversations is to avoid them, while I, on the other hand, tend to be very communicative.

Is there a way for both of us to be happy when dealing with difficult conversations? Is there anything I can do to make him more comfortable with them? I should add that he hasn't been in a relationship in forever. I'm happy with him, but communication is important to me.

VERBAL IN THE WEST

DEAR VERBAL: Has it occurred to you that this man may not have been in a relationship "in forever" BECAUSE he can't deal with uncomfortable conversations? For many women, that would be a deal-breaker.

While not all men are comfortable with long, heartfelt conversations, the only way to arrive at a compromise is to talk with each other. Give him more time because your relationship is still new. But if he isn't capable of opening up, recognize it as an important red flag if you are contemplating a long relationship with him.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: My son's best friend's bike was stolen from our front yard, and I feel terrible about it. Up to this point, he had been careful to put it in our garage or by our front door when he came over.

It was new, and I want to offer to help pay for a new one if we don't find it. My husband disagrees. I know the child's parents

DEAR ABBY

By Abigail Van Buren
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



don't expect it, but I feel it's the right thing to do.

FEELING GUILTY IN TEXAS

DEAR FEELING GUILTY: While it would be generous to offer to help pay for the bike, you should not feel obligated or guilty because you did nothing wrong. One can only hope the boy has learned an important lesson from what happened. In the future, he will make sure his bike is safely parked inside your garage and not out where a thief can snatch it.

■■■

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

CLASSIFIED ADS

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CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

CLASSIFIED LINER ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 5-day run in both print and online editions, for as low as \$30 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	\$15	\$30
• 5-Liner	\$24	\$45

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the Saipan Tribune are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

WHATZIT?

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

FAST LIFE LANE

www.facebook.com/dingbatsgames

Find today's solution in classified section

LOOKING TO HIRE

Electricians and Helpers

Electricians starting from \$12-18/hr and Helpers for \$9/hr.

Bring resume to Marianas Business Plaza (3rd floor – 309)
For more information, contact Alan at 285-5499 or 234-4800

Island Pro Services JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

- (6) Commercial Cleaner
- (4) Operational Service Worker


Minimum wage. Two to five years experience in a related field. For inquiries or resume submission, please email islandpro2015@gmail.com
Serious Inquiries Only Please

Danes Construction Corp.

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

- (1) ACCOUNTING TECHNICIAN
- (1) COMPUTER SUPPORT TECHNICIAN

Interested applicants may send their resume to danes@guam.net



COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950-1055
Phone: (670) 237-6500 Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-Mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT # 08-2018

“AMENDED”

Opening date: February 16, 2018 Closing date: March 09, 2018

Positions:

- (1) Mechanic-II (Saipan)
- (1) Electrician (Saipan)
- (2) Custodial-I (Saipan)
- (1) ARFF General Maintenance-I (Saipan)
- (3) General Maintenance-I (Saipan)
- (1) HR Specialist (Saipan)
- (1) Maintenance/Custodial-I (Rota)
- (1) Maintenance/Custodial Supervisor (Rota)
- (1) AOA Controller/Ground Maintenance (Rota)
- (1) Ports Police/ARFF Trainee (Rota)

Employment Application must be accompanied with a copy of all required diploma/certificates and/or official sealed transcripts, original copy of recent police record not more than six (6) months old, original copy of U.S. Department of Defense Form DD214 for retired members or veterans of our Armed Forces, and other documents as required for the position. Public Law 11-70 requires that all male applicants age 18 to 25 years old must submit documentation evidencing his registration with the Federal Selective Service System. All applications and required documents must be submitted to the **CPA Administration Office, 2nd Floor Arrival Building, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport or CPA Administration Office West Tinian International Airport or Benjamin T. Manglona Rota International Airport.** Failure to provide any of the required documents will result in automatic disqualification. Certain vacancies may require written and/or physical test. Selected applicants will be subjected to pre-employment drug screening, 10 year Criminal History Record Check and 49 CFR Part 1542.209(d) Requirements. CPA reserves the right to waive or implement other qualifications to meet its needs. The deadline for submission of applications and required documents to the CPA Administration Office (Saipan) or at the West Tinian International Airport or Benjamin T. Manglona Rota International Airport is no later than 5:00 pm on March 09, 2018.

Detailed information on qualifications and position description for the above positions shall be picked up along with the application form from Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., except on holidays, at the CPA's Administration Office (2nd Floor) of the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, Arrival Terminal or CPA Admin. Office at the West Tinian International Airport or at the Benjamin T. Manglona Rota International Airport. For additional information, please contact the CPA Human Resources Office by email at loma.tenorio@cpa.gov.mp or cpa.boardsec@pticom.com by phone at (670) 237-6500.

CPA is an Equal Opportunity Employer and CPA hires those who are legally entitled to employment in the CNMI.

CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO
Executive Director

**B & L CORPORATION
dba BL MACHINE SHOP**

P.O. BOX 10001 PMB 11 Saipan MP 96950 • Tel/Fax No. (670) 235-2567
Email: blmachineshop@yahoo.com

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

The Position: (3) Machinist/Mechanic

Job Description: Modify and Fabricate parts, tools metal and nonmetal to meet manufacturing and engineering needs, studies drawings or sample parts to determine dimensions and tolerance of finish work piece, sequence of operation and set up requirements, verifies conformance of finish workpiece, weld, heat treat, repair worn damaged equipment, dismantled and inspected components and repaired them as necessary, operate all shop machinery such as Lathe Machine, Vertical and Horizontal Milling Machines, Shaper Machine, Pipe Threading Machine, Rotor and Break Drum Refacing, Line Boring Machine, Crankshaft Grinder Machine, Reboring Machine, Engine Block Reconditioning and Overhauling, other related duties or task.

Minimum Qualifications: With at least 2 years course in Automotive Technician/Machining or any related field of study. Have at least 4 years of relevant work experience as a Machinist and Mechanic.

Place of Employment: Successful applicant will be assigned to work in Saipan, Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands.

Please submit a comprehensive resume to:
B&L Corporation dba BL Machine Shop
Office Address: Walumwo Street Chalan Lau Lau
Saipan MP 96950

B & L CORPORATION dba BL MACHINE SHOP
is an equal opportunity employer.

Closing Date : March 31, 2018

IM CALVO, LLC
P.O. Box 502795 Saipan MP 96950

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(1) **Commercial Cleaner** - With atleast 5 years work experience in cleaning apartment/building, dust & mop, polish floor & furniture. Must be honest, trustworthy and able to work flexible hours.

Email resume to edwardcalvo@gmail.com. No phone calls please. US applicants are encouraged to apply.

UNDERWATER ADVENTURES, LLC.

Vacancy Announcement

1-General Manager
2 years management experience. Professional Scuba Diving Instructor License preferred. Proficient in English & Japanese (reading, writing, speaking)


Interested U.S. applicants, may email resume to edwardcalvo@gmail.com

Aquaville Incorporation

Need
(1) Commercial Diver
At least have
3 years experience in Diving
Contact Person: Adonis Santos
Contact No. 323-2916

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BJ Belacora, 6 yrs.

Visit us at:
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Tamuning, GU 9691303507
Tel: (670) 483-9474
Email: info@guam.wish.org
www.guam.wish.org

Herta Adani
Saipan Tribune



(1) Maintenance Repairer-\$7.05/hr. with 4-years exp. Email JJ Brother Corp. at jjbrothercorp@gmail.com.

(6) Landscaper and Grounds keeping worker, (4) Waiters and Waitress, (2) Truck Driver, (2) Administrative Assistant, (4) Cook, (4) Housekeeping Cleaner, (2) Massage Therapists, (2) Sewer and Tailors, (8) Maintenance and Repair Workers, (14) Houseworker, (2) Computer Support Specialist, (2) Accountant/ Bookkeeper, minimum wage. Mail resume to MTO Maintenance (Saipan), Inc. at P.O. Box 504053 Saipan, MP 96950

(1) Taekwondo Instructor, \$10.25/hr. (1) Administrative Assistant, minimum wage. Mail resume to Blue Dragon Martial Arts Corporation at P.O. Box 506310 Saipan, MP 96950

(3) Maintenance and Repair Worker, minimum wage. Mail resume to Elliott System, LLC at P.O. Box 5568 Saipan, MP 96950

(1) Operation Manager, \$9.75/hr and (3) Camera operators, Television, Video and Motion Picture, minimum wage. Mail resume to Saipan TV Productions PMB 272 Box 10000 Saipan MP, 96950

(4) Cook, minimum wage. Mail resume to Everest Kitchen Company PMB 1311 Box 10002 Saipan MP, 96950

(1) Accountant, (8) Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers, (4) Auto Diesel Mechanic-minimum wage. (1) Sales Manager, \$7.25-\$10.33/hr (1) Trucking & Maintenance Manager, \$7.25 to \$8. Mail resume to Cargo Express (Saipan), inc. P.O. Box 506391 Saipan MP 96950.

2 Accountant/ Bookkeeper, minimum wage. Mail resume to Burger & Comer P.C. at P.O. Box 504053, Saipan, MP 96950

**CLICK IT OR TICKET
DAY & NIGHT**





We are seeking for high energy individual with a positive, can do attitude. Pacific Islands Club, Saipan is inviting qualified, U.S. workers to apply for the following position:

(1) FOOD SERVER CAPTAIN (KOREAN MARKET)
Minimum of three (6) month work related experience is required. Must be able to speak, read and write in English and Korean. Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

(1) RESERVATIONS COORDINATOR (KOREAN MARKET)
Minimum of three (3) years' experience working in Front Desk or Reservations for a hotel, preferably in hospitality; Must be able to use Microsoft Excel and hotel reservation system; Must be able to understand, speak, read, write English and Korean language. Must be able to work evenings, weekends, and holidays.

(1) RESERVATIONS MANAGER
Minimum of one (1) year experience working in Room Reservations for a hotel and three (3) years of related managerial experience. Must be proficient with hotel Property Management System (Micros Opera), Microsoft Word, and Microsoft Excel. Has experience with Vision Reports. Must be able to work evenings, weekends, and holidays.

Applications must be received by 5:00pm on Monday, March 12th, 2018.
PIC applications are available at the PIC Security Desk by the Loading Dock/Employee Entrance.
Incomplete applications will NOT be accepted or considered.
PIC is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

CMLC ARTHA CO., LTD.

P.O.Box 500439, Saipan, MP 96950

Job Vacancy Announcement

(1) Dive Master

Preferably can speak Chinese or Japanese

(1) General Manager

Preferably can speak Japanese

Must possess current Scuba Diving instructor license from a Professional Scuba Diving Association (PADI, NAUI, CMAS). Must have at least 2 to 5 years experience.

No phone call please.
Interested U.S. applicants can send their resume to
acctg.cmlc@gmail.com

ROSE MARIE A. GUILLERMO

P.O. BOX 520240 TINIAN, MP 96952

(670) 433-0034 / (670) 783-6346

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

ROSE MARIE A. GUILLERMO

Petitioner,

vs.

RUBEN GUILLERMO

Respondent,

FCD-DI CIVIL ACTION

NO. 17-0333

SUMMONS FOR PUBLICATION

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the Complaint, a copy of which is on file with the court, within thirty (30) days after service of the Summons upon you, and to deliver or mail a copy of your answer to the Petitioner whose address is P.O. Box 520240, Tinian, MP 96952 as soon as practical after filing your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Courts for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of this Court at P.O. Box 500307 Susupe, Saipan, MP 96950. It may be prepared for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of this Court by messenger or Mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice. If you fail to file and answer in accordance with this summons, judgement by default may be taken against you for relief in the complaint.

Dated this 30th day of January, 2018.
/s/
Clerk of Court

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

1-General Manager

2-5 years experience. Hardworking. Must be able to supervise or manage other branches of business. Can represent the company in meeting/event. Must have Drivers License.

1-Administrative Manager

2-3 years experience. Multi tasking. Computer literate. Excellent communication and organizational skills. Must own a vehicle and driver's license. Independent worker. Preferably understand Peachtree. Preferably College level. Can work under pressure.

1-Purchasing Manager

3-5 years experience. Background in writing merchandise proposals/negotiations. Computer literate.

1-Accountant

Degree in Accounting. Knowledgeable on Peachtree. 5-7 years experience. Trustworthy.

1-Graphic Artist

3-5 years experience. Degree holder of Fine Arts. Must know Adobe software. Creative and can create visual concepts by hand or using computer software. Can work under pressure. Team player.

2-Embroiderer

1-2 years experience in embroidery. Knowledgeable of principles and methods of embroidery. Multitasking. Can work longer hours. Good eyesight.

1-Quality Control

1-2 years experience in Apparel business. Good eyesight. Excellent in judgment/decision making on the finish product.

3-Silkscreen Printer

1-2 years experience. Preferably have a vocational course in Silkscreen Printing. Physically fit. Can work under pressure. Can work longer hours if needed.

2-Sales Representative

3-5 years experience. Can work under pressure. Microsoft/Excel literate. Must know how to write Business Proposals. Able to drive.

U.S. qualified applicants, email your resume at
hr.islandapparel@gmail.com
No phone call please

Island Apparel
P.O. Box 502912, Saipan, MP 96950

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS JUDICIARY

INVITATION TO BID

ITB NO.: ITB18-JUDICIARY-01

SUBMISSION DATE: March 15, 2018

TIME: 10:00 A.M.

“PURCHASE OF TRANSPORT VEHICLE (12-15 Passenger Van) FOR THE CNMI JUDICIARY, DRUG COURT DIVISION”

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE CASHIER WINDOW, DOOR #5, LOCATED AT THE GUMA HUSTISIA / IMMAL AWEWE / HOUSE OF JUSTICE, SUSUPE, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ ALEXANDRO C. CASTRO

JUDICIARY EXPENDITURE AUTHORITY

/S/ JOHN T. VILLAGOMEZ

JUDICIARY PROCUREMENT OFFICER

JOB VACANY ANNOUNCEMENT

ADMINISTRATIVE SUPERVISOR: Must be College Graduate with a 4-year degree & with at least four-year experience of property management, pawnshop and real estate. Knowledgeable in real estate and drilling operations, gold acid testing and QuickBooks preferred.

BUSINESS SUPPORT SPECIALIST: College Graduate with a 4-year degree or with at least two year experience in Western Union, Real Estate, Pawnshop and Drilling business. Has excellent customer service and organizational skills and skilled in dealing with financial and numeric data.

WELL DRILLER: Minimum of 8 years experience of monitoring water well drilling & boring holes. Must have excellent knowledge & skill in well servicing & well drilling using different methods & other necessary drilling equipment, tools & machines. OSHA & HAZWOPER Certification are required.

DRILLER HELPER: Minimum of 5 years experience of assisting in water well drilling & boring holes. Must have excellent knowledge & skills in well servicing & well drilling using different methods & other necessary drilling equipment, tools & machines. OSHA & HAZWOPER certification are required.

CONSTRUCTION LABORER: Minimum of 5 years experience of performing tasks involving physical labor in well construction & real estate development projects, specializing in water well drilling projects & commercial and residential property maintenance service. OSHA & HAZWOPER certification are required.

HEAVY EQUIPMENT MECHANIC: Minimum of 5 years experience of performing tasks involving heavy equipment preventive maintenance such as engine tune-ups, oil changes, tire rotation and changes, wheel balancing, replacing filters. Maintains vehicle functional condition by listening to operator complaints; conducting inspections; repairing engine failures; repairing mechanical and electrical systems malfunctions; replacing parts and components; repairing body damage. OSHA & HAZWOPER certification are required.

MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR: Minimum of 5 years experience of accomplishes maintenance human resource objectives by selecting, orienting, training, assigning, scheduling, coaching, counseling, and disciplining employees; communicating job expectations; planning, monitoring, appraising job contributions; recommending compensation actions; adhering to policies and procedures. Meets maintenance operational standards by contributing maintenance information to strategic plans and reviews; implementing production, productivity, quality, and customer-service standards; resolving problems.

Alexander

Alexander Incorporated

Alexander Building, Beach Road,
San Jose, Saipan, MP 96950
For inquiries, please call 234-5117

APEX BUILDERS, INC.

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Accounting Technician (01) \$7.10 to 8.50 per hour
Must be a High School Graduate with a minimum of 2 years' experience as an Accounting Technician. Must Compute, classify, and record numerical data to keep financial records complete. Perform any combination of routine calculating, posting, and verifying duties to obtain primary financial data for use in maintaining accounting records. May also check the accuracy of figures, calculations, and postings pertaining to business transactions recorded by other workers. Operate computers programmed with accounting software such as quick books and peach tree.

Auto Body Repairer (2) \$7.10 - \$7.40/hour
Must be a high school graduate with minimum of two years' experience as Auto Body Repairer. With knowledge how to repair and refinish automotive vehicle bodies and straighten vehicle frames. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Maintenance Technician (2) \$7.10- 7.20 per hour (SOC) 499071.00
Must be a high school graduate with minimum of two years' experience as Maintenance Technician. Perform work involving the skills of two or more maintenance or craft occupations to keep machines, mechanical equipment, or the structure of an establishment in repair. Duties may involve pipe fitting; boiler making; insulating; welding; machining; carpentry; repairing electrical or mechanical equipment; installing, aligning, and balancing new equipment; and repairing buildings, floors, or stairs. With knowledge on how to install, maintain, and repair electrical wiring Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Machinist (2) \$7.10 - \$8.00 /hour
Must be a high school graduate with a minimum of 2 years' experience as a Machinist. Set up and operate a variety of machine tools to produce precision parts and instruments. Includes precision instrument makers who fabricate, modify, or repair mechanical instruments. May also fabricate and modify parts to make or repair machine tools or maintain industrial machines, applying knowledge of mechanics, mathematics, metal properties, layout, and machining procedures. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Sales Person (2) \$7.10 - \$7.50/hour
Must be a college graduate with a minimum of two to 2 years' work experience as a Sales Person. Able to sell merchandises such as light/heavy vehicles, motor vehicle parts, heavy equipment parts and appliances to customers. Great customers and assist their needs and wants, as well as to explain the merchandises and its usage, operation and proper care. Capable of recommending, selecting and helping customers obtain desired and needed products. Calculate prices, tally purchases, compute receivables and process cash and credit payments. Prepare sale slips or sale contracts and place special orders to the suppliers for the customer's desired items. Enjoy dealing with customers and answering their questions regarding the store merchandises

Welder (01) \$7.10- \$7.50/hour
Must be a high school graduate with minimum of two years' experience as a Welder. With knowledge how to use hand-welding, flame-cutting, hand soldering, or brazing equipment to weld or join metal components or to fill holes, indentations, or seams of fabricated metal products. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience.

All of the above positions must be able to work flexible time. Interested applicants may apply at Apex Builders, Inc. office located at As Perdido, Saipan. A copy of police clearance must be attached to the application. Incomplete application will NOT be accepted. Skills, testing maybe required. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience. Apex Builder, Inc. is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

GPPC, INC.

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Accounting Technician (04) \$7.10 - \$8.50/ hour or up to \$2,400.00 per month
College graduate with a minimum of 5 years' experience as an Accounting Technician. Must Compute, classify, and record numerical data to keep financial records complete. Perform any combination of routine calculating, posting, and verifying duties to obtain primary financial data for use in maintaining accounting records. May also check the accuracy of figures, calculations, and postings pertaining to business transactions recorded by other workers. Operate computers programmed with accounting software such as quick books and peach tree.

Administrative Assistant (01) \$7.10 - \$8.25 /hour
Must be a college graduate with a minimum of 2 years' experience. Knowledgeable on construction business. Provide high-level administrative support by conducting research, preparing statistical reports, handling information requests, and performing clerical functions such as preparing correspondence, receiving visitors, arranging conference calls, and scheduling meetings. May also train and supervise lower-level clerical staff. Prepare invoices, reports, memos, letters, financial statements, and other documents, using word processing, spreadsheet, database, or presentation software.

Architectural Drafter Technician (4) \$7.10 - \$8.75/hour
College graduate with a minimum of 2 years' experience as an Architectural Drafter Technician. Prepare detailed drawings of architectural designs and plans for buildings and structures according to specifications provided by architect. Capable of preparing detailed drawings of architectural/structural features of buildings as well as drawings and photographic relief maps used in civil engineering projects such as highways, bridges and other public works. Knowledgeable on building materials engineering practices/mathematics used to complete drawings drafts.

Auto Body Repairer (2) \$7.10 - \$7.25/hour
Must be a high school graduate with minimum 2 years' experience as Auto Body Repairer. With knowledge how to repair and refinish automotive vehicle bodies and straighten vehicle frames. Sand body areas to be painted and cover bumpers, windows, and trim with masking tape or paper to protect them from the paint. Fit and weld replacement parts into place, using wrenches and welding equipment, and grind down welds to smooth them, using power grinders and other tools. Prime and paint repaired surfaces, using paint spray guns and motorized sanders.

Automobile Electrician (2) \$7.10 - \$7.50/hour
Must be a high school graduate with minimum of five years' work related experience. Able to diagnose and undertake electrical repairs on a wide variety of vehicles and heavy equipment. With knowledge on electric motor, alternator, starter and motor rewinding.

Carpenter (28) \$7.10 - \$7.85/hour
Must be a high school graduate with minimum of five years' experience as a Carpenter. With knowledge how to construct, erect, install, or repair structures and fixtures made of wood, such as concrete forms; building frameworks, including partitions, joists, studding, and rafters; and wood stairways, window and door frames, and hardwood floors. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Civil Engineering Technicians (4) \$7.10- 9.00/hour or up to \$2,200.00 per month
Must be a college graduate with minimum of two years' experience as a Civil Engineering Technician with knowledge how to apply Theory and Principles of Civil Engineering in planning, designing and overseeing construction, structure maintenance and facilities under the directions of engineering staff or physical scientist.

Construction Manager (1) \$3,000.00-\$3,250.00 per month
College graduate or with a minimum 5 years experience as a Construction Manager. Knowledge direct or coordinate through subordinate supervisory personnel activities in regards to maintenance of structures, facilities and systems. Participate in the conceptual development project and oversee its organization, scheduling, budgeting and implementation. Includes specialized construction fields such as carpentry or plumbing.

Diesel Mechanic (1) \$7.10 - \$7.25 /hour
Must be a high school graduate with a minimum of five years' work related experience. Diagnose, adjust, repair, or overhaul buses and trucks, or maintain and repair any type of diesel engines. Includes mechanics working primarily with automobile or marine diesel engines.

Electricians (9) \$7.10 - \$7.95 /hour
Must be a high school graduate with minimum of 2 years experience as Electrician. With knowledge on how to install, maintain, and repair electrical wiring, equipment, and fixtures. Able to install or service street lights, intercom systems, or electrical control systems.

General Maintenance (3) \$7.10 - \$7.30 /hour
High school graduate with a minimum of 2 years experience as General Maintenance on how to install equipment. Perform work involving the skills of two or more maintenance or craft occupations to keep machines, mechanical equipment, or the structure of an establishment in repair. Duties may involve pipe fitting; boiler making; insulating; welding; machining; carpentry; repairing electrical or mechanical equipment; installing, aligning, and balancing new equipment; and repairing buildings, floors, or stairs.

Heavy Equipment Mechanic (14) \$7.10 - \$8.50 /hour
Must be a high school graduate with minimum of 5 years experience as Heavy Equipment Mechanic. With knowledge how to diagnose, adjust, repair, or overhaul automobiles, hydraulic, and pneumatic equipment, such as cranes, bulldozers, graders, excavators, trucks and conveyors, typically used in constructions.

Heavy Equipment Operator (34) \$7.10 - \$8.00 /hour
Must be a high school graduate with minimum of 2 years' experience as HE Operator. With knowledge how to operate several types of power construction equipment, such as motor graders, bulldozers, trenching machine, scrapers, compressors, pumps, derricks, shovels, tractors, or front-end loaders to excavate, move, and grade earth, erect structures, or pour concretes and etc.

Machinist (1) \$7.10 - \$8.00 /hour
Must be a high school graduate with a minimum of 2 years' experience as a Machinist. Set up and operate a variety of machine tools to produce precision parts and instruments. Includes precision instrument makers who fabricate, modify, or repair mechanical instruments. May also fabricate and modify parts to make or repair machine tools or maintain industrial machines, applying knowledge of mechanics, mathematics, metal properties, layout, and machining procedures.

Mason (35) \$7.10 - \$8.10/hour
Must be a high school graduate with minimum of 3 years experience as Mason. With knowledge how to do smooth and finish surfaces of poured concrete, such as floors, walks, sidewalks, roads, or curbs using a variety of hand and power tools. Align forms for sidewalks, curbs, or gutters; patch voids; and use saws to cut expansion joints.

Mechanical Engineering Technicians (03) \$7.10-8.00 /hour
Must be a college graduate with minimum of 2 years' experience as a Mechanical Engineering Technician with knowledge on how to apply Theory and Principles of Mechanical Engineering in planning, designing and overseeing construction, structure maintenance and other facilities under the directions of engineering staff or physical scientists.

Painter (4) \$7.10 - \$7.50/hour
Must be a high school graduate with minimum 5 years experience as Painter. Knowledgeable on how to operate/tend various painting machines. Able to paint transportation equipment surfaces, such as automobiles, buses, trucks, trains, boats, airplanes ad etc.

Plumber (8) \$7.10 - \$7.90 /hour
Must be a high school graduate with minimum of 2 years experienced as a plumber with knowledge to assemble, install alter and repair pipelines or pipe systems that carry water, steam, air or other liquids or gases. May install heating and cooling equipment and mechanical control systems and sprinkler fitters.

Rigger (02) \$7.10 - \$7.25/hour
Must be a high school graduate with 2 years work experience on related field of construction. Set up or repair rigging for construction projects, manufacturing plants, logging yards, ships and shipyards, or for the entertainment industry.

Sheet Metal Worker (02) \$7.10 - \$7.25/hour
High school graduate with minimum 2 years experienced as a Sheet Metal Worker. With knowledge on how to install pre-fabricated sheet metal ducts used for heating, air conditioning or other purposes

Steel Worker (7) \$7.10 - \$7.50 /hour
Must be a high school graduate with minimum of 5 years experience as a Steel Worker. With knowledge how to rise, place and unite iron or steel girders, R columns and structural members to form a completed structures or structural frameworks. May erect metal storage tanks and assemble prefabricated metal buildings. Position and secure steel bars or mesh in concrete forms in order to reinforce concrete.

Tower Crane Operator (02) \$7.10 - \$7.25 /hour
High school graduate with a minimum of 2 years work related experience. Must be able to comply with all safety regulations and work with minimal supervision.

Truck Driver (1) \$710 - \$8.75/hour
Must be a high school graduate with minimum of 2-5 years experiences as a Truck Driver with knowledge on how to drive a Tractor Trailer or Trucks that has a capacity of at least 26,000 GVW for various construction materials transportation.

Welder (10) \$7.10 - \$7.50 /hour
Must be a high school graduate with minimum of 2 years experience as a Welder. With knowledge how to use hand-welding, flame-cutting, hand soldering, or brazing equipment to weld or join metal components or to fill holes, indentations, or seams of fabricated metal products.

All of the above positions must be able to work flexible time. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience.

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Jags, Bortles agree to \$54M contract extension



JACKSONVILLE—As signing a quarterback a personal record ignores that football is a team sport. Yet, some teams still believe in it.

That's really the only way one can spin the Jacksonville Jaguars signing quarterback Blake Bortles to a contract extension. The Jaguars had a good season—mostly due to their defense and running game, with Bortles making plays here and there — winning the AFC South and almost winning the AFC championship game. They rewarded Bortles with a three-year, \$54 million deal that can reach \$66.5 million with incentives and has \$26.5 million guaranteed, according to ESPN's Adam Schefter. Schefter said the deal ties the Jaguars to Bortles through 2020.

And you have to imagine, if the Jaguars defense or Leonard Fournette weren't as good as the Jaguars went 7-9, Bortles' play probably would have gotten him booted out of Jacksonville.

That's not to say Bortles didn't have his moments, but he also had some poor games like when he failed to reach 100 yards passing in a playoff game against Buffalo (the Jaguars defense held the Bills to a field goal in a 10-3 win, another reason why assigning a win to a quarterback is flawed). Bortles is still inconsistent. He had a middling 84.7 rating, which ranked 23rd among quarterbacks with 160 passes. Ryan Fitzpatrick ranked right ahead of him. Bortles threw for 21 touchdowns and 13 interceptions in a run-first offense. He did have some good games, including solid performances against New England and Pittsburgh in the playoffs and a hot three-game stretch late in the season, but he's also the same quarterback a



AP
Jacksonville Jaguars quarterback Blake Bortles passes against the New England Patriots during the first half of the AFC championship NFL football game, Sunday, Jan. 21, 2018, in Foxborough, Mass.

lot of fans wanted benched for Chad Henne last August. He didn't suddenly turn into a top quarterback worth at least \$18 million a year though, in this market that's not all that bad for a starting quarterback. But the Jaguars have a lot invested in him, he's still young and did show signs of improvement. And the Jaguars won 10 regular-season games last season. So instead of just letting Bortles play out his fifth year option, they were proactive and locked him up for a few more. It also obviously knocks the Jaguars out of the mix for any of the big-money free-agent quarterbacks.

Bortles saved his job after the Jaguars picked him to start the season at quarterback over Henne. He played well enough, though he still had his shaky moments. But for better or worse, he's now

the Jaguars quarterback for a few more years.

Meanwhile, owner Shad Khan gave a two-year extensions to coach Doug Marrone, executive vice president of football operations Tom Coughlin, and general manager Dave Caldwell. All three had two years remaining on their deals, which now will run through the 2021 season.

"The decision to extend the contracts of Tom, Dave and Doug isn't so much a reward for last season, which no doubt was impressive, as it is to recognize their importance to our football team this coming season and for years to follow," Khan said in a statement. "We're past celebrating the accomplishments of our division title and playoff run, and now it's time to take the next step."

"We need the right leader-

ship firmly in place to make that happen, and it's good to know we'll have that with Tom, Dave and Doug secure in their roles with the Jacksonville Jaguars."

The Jaguars won the AFC South for the first time in franchise history, made the playoffs for the first time in a decade and advanced to the AFC title game for the first time since 2000.

Khan hired Coughlin and Marrone in January 2017. Coughlin returned to the franchise he helped build from a trailer in the early 1990s and gave him full control over all football matters. That meant fewer decisions for Caldwell.

But Khan credits Caldwell for drafting and assembling much of the roster that turn a laughingstock into a contender, earning the team's first home playoff game

since 2000.

Jacksonville won thanks mostly to one of the league's best defenses. Caldwell drafted many of those defenders, including All-Pro cornerback Jalen Ramsey, pass-rusher Yannick Ngakoue and linebackers Telvin Smith and Myles Jack. Coughlin, Caldwell and Marrone also landed the best free-agent class in fran-

chise history by signing defensive end Calais Campbell, cornerback A.J. Bouye and safety Barry Church.

The defense nearly led the Jaguars to the Super Bowl for the first time in franchise history. They held a 10-point lead in the fourth quarter at New England before Tom Brady and the Patriots scored twice late and won 24-20.

Woods shoots 69 for first time in nine rounds



PALM BEACH GARDENS, Fla. (AP)—Tiger Woods broke 70 on the PGA Tour for the first time in nine rounds since his return from another back surgery. What mattered more to him was having a Sunday that might mean something at the Honda Classic.

Woods had great control in more strong wind Saturday at PGA National and got up-and-down for birdie on the final hole for a 1-under 69. That left him seven shots out of the lead with 10 players in front of him going into the final round.

"I've got a shot going into tomorrow," Woods said.

The scoring was better in the third round, typical after the cut has been made and in this case with fewer footprints on bare greens. Woods did his part by at least having chances. He putted for birdie on all but four holes, and only one of those birdie chances was longer than 25 feet.

He just didn't make many.

His only birdies were a 6-foot putt on No. 8, a 15-

foot putt on the 13th and the tap-in on the par-5 18th. He also made a 20-foot par save on No. 12 after driving into a bunker and having to lay up well short of the green.

"I think this is probably the highest score I could have shot today," Woods said. "I really, really hit it good. I just didn't get anything to go in there for most of the early part of the round. I gave myself plenty of looks. I just didn't make anything, and I finally made a nice par putt at 12 and made a nice one at 13. Somehow posted under par."

By the books, it was the first time in 917 days that he had a sub-70 round, dating to a 68 in the third round of the 2015 Wyndham Championship. In context, this was only his 12th round on the PGA Tour since then.

Woods had his second and third back surgeries after the Wyndham Championship. He made it through only one PGA Tour event in 2017—Torrey Pines, where he missed the cut—before having fusion surgery on his lower back last April.

Mixed results for Ohtani in first pitching start with Angels



TEMPE, Ariz. (AP)—Shohei Ohtani didn't quite dazzle in his spring pitching debut with the Los Angeles Angels.

Maybe things will change when he swings the bat for the first time in a Cactus League game.

The star two-way player from Japan had mixed results in his first big league mound appearance Saturday, when he allowed a home run and didn't make it through his scheduled two innings in a 6-5 victory against the Milwaukee Brewers.

The 23-year-old right-hander threw some nice pitches, including a fastball clocked at

97 mph, and a curveball that came across at 69 mph.

But he also struggled with his fastball command in allowing two runs, one earned, and two hits in 1 1/3 innings. Keon Broxton tagged him for a home run leading off the second inning.

"Besides the results, I mean, I had a lot of fun out there, so I think it went all well," Ohtani said through a translator.

He struck out two and walked one. He threw 31 pitches, 17 for strikes.

Ohtani didn't hit—he wasn't in manager Mike Scioscia's batting order.

He's been launching some long home runs in batting practice.

"I had a lot of fun out there today and obviously I'm excited to hit and pitch again, and I just want to keep on getting better and have good results from here on out," he said.

Scioscia said Ohtani will hit early in the week, as the designated hitter.

"It was great to see him," Scioscia said. "I think he did enough to where we certainly learned some things. He and Martin worked some things out and I think it will be a step forward next time for him. But to get him out there for the first time was great. He threw all his pitches. Some were really what we would expect him to be and some he just lost his re-

lease point on. But it's a step forward, for sure."

Paired with catcher Martin Maldonado, Ohtani started five of his seven batters with balls, including leadoff man Jonathan Villar, who worked the count to 3-1 before hitting a double that bounced over the fence in left-center. Ohtani struck out Nate Orf before walking Ji-Man Choi.

With Manny Pina batting, Ohtani threw a wild pitch and Maldonado threw the ball into center field for an error while trying to get Choi at second base, allowing Villar to score with an unearned run.

Ohtani allowed Broxton's homer to left on a 1-1 count.

Durant leads Warriors rout of Thunder



OAKLAND, Calif. (AP)—The Golden State Warriors played stifling defense for a full game. They went on a jaw-dropping scoring frenzy mid-way through the third quarter.

Yes, the dominant defending champions are back and ready to build some consistency.

Kevin Durant scored 28 points while avenging an embarrassing home loss to his former Oklahoma City team earlier this month and another on the road in November, leading the Warriors past the Thunder 112-80 on Saturday night.

"We're champions. We're 46-14 and we've got one of the best road records in the league," Durant said. "We've been doing this the last two years. We've got to be us."

Stephen Curry added 21 points with five 3-pointers, nine rebounds, six assists and three steals as Golden State produced the kind of defensive performance coach Steve Kerr has been seeking.

Russell Westbrook had 15 points, 12 rebounds and seven assists for Oklahoma City, which failed to reach 100 points for the first time in the last five games. The Thunder had scored at least 100 in 14 of their last 16, but this matched their season-low total.

Durant's pretty layup off a perfect pass by Curry with 3:06 left in the third put the Warriors up 75-66. That was part of a 37-11 Golden State run that included 30 points over the final 8:48 of the third -- when Zaza Pachulia subbed in to relieve JaVale McGee.

The Warriors held Paul George to five points. George's 3-pointer at the 7:52 mark of the third with Durant's hand in his face was his first basket after going 0 for 9 to begin the game. He finished 1 for 14 after going off for 38 points in the last meeting when Oklahoma City left Oracle Arena with a 125-105 rout on Feb. 6. "He's played at such a high level offensively for such a long time, a night like tonight's going to happen," coach Billy Donovan said.

Golden State also lost at OKC by 17 on Nov. 22.

Draymond Green added 10 points, eight assists and five rebounds. He picked up his 15th technical of the season with 1:04 left in the first half, moving him within one of an automatic suspension. That came after Durant and Carmelo Anthony pushed, shoved, yelled from close range and had to be separated, receiving double technicals.

It was a testy rematch after the Warriors received five technical fouls in the previous



Oklahoma City Thunder's Russell Westbrook falls down in front of Golden State Warriors' Kevin Durant during the second half of an NBA basketball game Saturday, Feb. 24, 2018, in Oakland, Calif. AP

the Celtics, who went into the break with three straight losses but came back with a victory in Detroit on Friday.

Trey Burke scored 26 points for the Knicks, but they couldn't win this one after beating Orlando on Thursday to end an eight-game skid.

76ers 116, Magic 105

In Philadelphia, Joel Embiid had 28 points and 14 rebounds, and Philadelphia extended its season-high win streak to seven.

Six 76ers scored in double figures. Ben Simmons had 17 points and seven assists, and J.J. Redick added 16 points on 6-for-8 shooting.

The Magic have dropped five in a row. Aaron Gordon had 20 points, seven rebounds and seven assists, and Evan Fournier scored 16 points.

Heat 115, Grizzlies 89

In Miami, Tyler Johnson scored 23 points to lead six players in double figures, and Miami stopped a three-game slide.

The Grizzlies lost their ninth game in a row, the longest active streak in the NBA, and their second in as many nights.

Justise Winslow scored a season-high 17 points for the Heat. Reserve Wayne Ellington went 5 for 10 from 3-point range and scored 15.

Miami's Dwyane Wade was limited to 18 minutes by foul trouble and scored six points. But the Heat, scrambling for a playoff berth, still managed to win for only the second time in the past 10 games.

Andrew Harrison scored 17 points for the Grizzlies, who played without leading scorer Tyreke Evans. He'll undergo a precautionary MRI Sunday on his injured right ribs.

Lakers 113, Kings 108

In Sacramento, Kentavious Caldwell-Pope scored 17 of his season-high 34 points in the third quarter, and the Lakers snapped a three-game road losing streak.

Caldwell-Pope hit eight 3-pointers and the Lakers had 17 overall. Isaiah Thomas added 17 points in his fifth game since Los Angeles acquired him in a trade with the Cleveland Cavaliers.

Buddy Hield and Bogdan Bogdanovic each had 21 points to lead the Kings, who have lost eight of their last nine home games.

ACL ruled out, but Butler could be out for at least 4 weeks

MINNEAPOLIS (AP)—Minnesota All-Star Jimmy Butler has a meniscal injury to his right knee that the Timberwolves are optimistic will not sideline him rest of the season as they try to end the NBA's longest playoff drought.

The team stopped short of calling the injury a tear, and coach Tom Thibodeau said he didn't want to speculate on timing. Still, the news Saturday could've been worse for

the organization, which feared a season-ending torn ligament after Butler had to be helped off the floor Friday night in a loss at Houston. Sources, however, said he could be out for at least four weeks.

"The big thing is ruling out the ACL, that would've been an extended amount of time, so we're hopeful that it's not too long," Thibodeau said.

Nemanja Bjelica started in Butler's place on Saturday

night against the Chicago Bulls.

"A guy like Jimmy, you don't replace him individually, you have to do it collectively," Thibodeau said.

Butler was hurt in the third quarter of Minnesota's 120-102 loss and had the MRI on Saturday at Mayo Clinic. In his first season with the Timberwolves, Butler has helped lead the team to the thick of the Western Conference race, averaging 22.2 points. They entered Saturday's

game against Chicago, Butler's old team, in fourth place and in position to end their 13-year playoff absence.

"Knowing Jimmy, he's a very quick healer and obviously as tough a player as there is in this game, so I'm sure he'll do everything to get himself back where he can help his team in the playoffs," said Bulls coach Fred Hoiberg, who coached Butler for two seasons in Chicago.

meeting. Kerr isn't concerned about Green.

"I'm an emotional guy. I play with high emotion," Green said. "I love this game of basketball. I play it with passion. I'll continue to play with passion."

Durant announced his decision to join the Warriors and leave OKC on July 4, 2016, making him an instant villain in his former city.

He scored 33 in the Feb. 6 meeting but got plenty of help this time.

Earlier this month against the Thunder, Curry and Klay Thompson were a combined 11 of 27 from the floor and 4 for 15 on 3-pointers as the Warriors lost for the third time in four games. Thompson had 11 points Saturday, shooting just 1 for 11 from deep.

Timberwolves 122, Bulls 104

In Minneapolis, Jeff Teague

scored 25 points, Andrew Wiggins added 23 and Minnesota won its first game since All-Star Jimmy Butler was injured.

Karl-Anthony Towns had 22 points and 13 rebounds for his 53rd double-double of the season. Jamal Crawford scored 19 for the Timberwolves, including three 3-pointers that keyed a 16-2 spurt to open the fourth quarter.

Zach LaVine scored 21 to lead the Bulls in his return to Target Center after the blockbuster offseason trade that sent Butler to Minnesota.

Butler had to be helped off the floor Friday night in a loss at Houston. He has a meniscal injury to his right knee, and it's unclear how long he will be sidelined.

Jazz 97, Mavericks 90

In Salt Lake City, Donovan Mitchell had 25 points, five rebounds and five assists, and

the Jazz earned their 12th win in 13 games.

Derrick Favors scored 14 points for Utah (31-29), which had won 11 in a row before Friday night's 100-81 loss to Portland. Rudy Gobert added 13 points and 10 rebounds.

J.J. Barea scored 17 points for lowly Dallas, and Dirk Nowitzki had 12 points and 10 rebounds. The Mavericks (18-42) lost for the 14th time in 18 games.

After tying it up three times in the fourth quarter, the Mavericks finally took an 87-85 lead on a jumper from Barea. But Utah answered with an 8-0 run, punctuated by a Gobert dunk, to go ahead 93-87 with 2:32 remaining.

Trail Blazers 106, Suns 104

In Phoenix, Damian Lillard scored 40 points, including a left-handed layup with .9 seconds remaining, and Port-

land rallied from 15 down in the final 7 1/2 minutes to hand Phoenix its ninth straight loss.

Lillard, who scored 19 points in the fourth quarter, got the final chance because Phoenix's Troy Daniels couldn't get the ball inbounds on a five-second call that turned possession over to Portland with 20.6 seconds to play.

Devin Booker scored 30 points for the Suns, losers of 14 of their last 15.

Celtics 121, Knicks 112

In New York, Kyrie Irving had 31 points, nine rebounds and eight assists, leading the Celtics to their second victory in two nights since the All-Star break.

Irving scored 15 points in a dazzling third quarter and then helped Boston finish it off with his passing in the fourth, highlighted by a behind-the-back dish to Jaylen Brown for a dunk that made it 115-106.

Brown had 24 points for

AJ Lizama, five others lead SBL in batting

By JON PEREZ

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REPORTER

The Chalan Kanoa Bears' A.J. Lizama and five other players led in batting after the first full week of the 2018 Saipan Baseball League season.

While all five batters are currently perfect at the plate, Lizama's 5-for-5 topped the list. His cousin and teammate Kiku Lizama, Donald Manalo, an-

other Bears player were 2-for-2. Gerald Cabrera of the Titanium, Perry Celis of the Indians, and Virgil Secharmidal of the Blue Jays also went 2-for-2.

The Bears' Angel Palacios (.800), Peter Lieto of the Falcons (.750), and GSM's Franco Nakamura and Jerome Delos Santos, Henry Lizama of the Bears, and the Outlaws' T.J. Dela Cruz complete the batting leaders with the last four hav-

ing .667 averages.

GSM's Lorenzo Sebaklim is the current runs scoring leader with seven, followed by Nakamura's six and five each of Delos Santos, Bradley Lieto, Byron Kaipat, and Peter Lieto. Delos Santos also had two doubles, while Manalo, Angel Falig, Mario Salas, Roy Celis, and Tony Deleon Guerrero made one apiece.



Kier Agda had already hit two triples for the 1-1 Blue Jays to lead the category, while Sebaklim, Kolby Kaipat, Kyle Foreman, and J.J. Lifofoi had one each.

Nakamura then led the league this early in RBIs with his five, while Delos Santos, Angel Palacios, and Bradley Lieto had four apiece. Foreman, Ian Norita, and Mark

Toves had three each.

Bill Camacho (Titanium), Dennis Cabrera (Outlaws), Frankie Norita (Blue Jays), Kevin Kapileo (G.S.M.), Jose Lizama (C.K. Bears), Noel Cabrera (Blue Jays), Peter Lieto (Falcons), and Ray Dela Cruz (C.K. Bears) are tied in pitching with 0.00 ERAs based on two or more innings pitched.

Dung Tenorio of the Aces posted a 1.40 ERA, while Mc-

Gregory Camacho of the Outlaws had 1.71 to complete the Top 10.

The GSM's Kapileo had 13 strikeouts for the lead and was followed by Cabrera of the Blue Jays with eight. Frankie Lieto and Peter Lieto had five each. Adolpho Roppul had four, while Nokki Saralu, Nathan Guerrero, Bill Camacho, and J.J. Lifofoi had three apiece.

Warriors, Black Ball nip foes



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Players of 9 Eleven MJD Warriors celebrate after beating the Amari's Intensity 8 in the Budweiser-Saipan Billiards Association Open 8-Ball Thursday League last week at 9 Eleven Bar in San Jose.

By JON PEREZ

jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The 9 Eleven MJD Warriors and sister team 8-Black Ball nipped their respective opponents to remain within striking distance of the league-leading Amari's Blue Haus Homeboyz in the Budweiser Open 8-Ball Thursday division.

The Warriors and the Black Ball hold identical 15-11 won-loss records against the Homeboyz after last week's matches in the Saipan Billiards Association-organized weekly league. The Amari's Intensity 8 (12-14), VFW Assassins (11-15), Sands Team



SCS (11-15), 9 Eleven Titans (11-15), and Brancal 15-11 won-loss records against the Homeboyz after last week's matches in the Saipan Billiards Association-organized weekly league. The Amari's Intensity 8 (12-14), VFW Assassins (11-15), Sands Team

The Warriors completed a 7-6 win over the Intensity 8 behind the duo of Jerry Soriano and Roel Barreto, as they beat the pair of Rico

while scoring two runs with three RBIs.

The starting pitcher struck out in the first, in a 1-2-3 inning for Falcons pitcher Keoni Serrano, but settled in after that with an RBI double in the third and an RBI single in fifth before closing out with an RBI triple in the seventh.

Nakamura continued his impressive batting yesterday, going 2-for-4 in the Comets' dismantling of the Braves. He had a two-RBI double in a seven-run fourth

inning by the Greg Camacho-managed squad.

Teregeyo, who had an RBI single in the Comets' huge fourth inning, was almost unhittable before giving up a pair of singles to Lufo Babauta in the first and to Antonio Norita in the third. He also had seven strikeouts and two walks. The Braves' two runs—scored by Norita and Babauta in the first—were both unearned.

The Braves needed to score two runs at the top of the fifth to continue the game and

told them they can do it, just believe," Catherine said.

When the game resumed, Catherine's son Markus responded with a goal as he eluded one defender after another from the backcourt to knot the count and somehow restore order back to Tinsel Toes. Markus then made it two in a row with a cross against two Betde defenders to help Tinsel Toes regain the lead, 7-6, with a little over two minutes left in the title match.

Betde tried to mount another comeback, but Tinsel Toes' defense hung in there, foiling Roque and company's repeated attempts to score. Then with Betde still in the race, Gil anticipated a pass off a kick-in from Julie Capayas and unleashed a long shot that went in between the legs of Betde goalie Mark Chavez for the dagger.

"It was a very good finals game. Betde is such a talented team that's why we had a hard time against them. We tied in



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Brannon's 670 Builders and Tasha's Master Touch players pose for a group photo before their game in the Budweiser Open 8-Ball Tuesday League last week at 9 Eleven Bar in San Jose.

Montano and Victor Formales in the final Partner's 8-Ball game.

The Homeboyz remained on top after dispatching the Jam Shooters, 9-4, as it swept the last three Partner's matches to complete the win. The Assassins also scored a 9-4 decision over Team SCS, while while the Black Ball edged the Titans, 7-6.

In the Tuesday division, the Tasha's Masters Touch scored a 7-6 win over the Brannon's

670 Builders to join the Amari's Blue Haus Destroyers, which drew a bye, on top.

The Masters Touch and Destroyers have similar 20-6 records to share the No. 1 spot, followed by the 9 Eleven Str8 Black Ball (18-8), Brannon's Docomo Hustlers (15-

11), Marianas Water (14-12), Wildboyz (10-16), and the Builders (7-19).

In other games, the Hustlers completed a 9-4 triumph over the Wildboyz, while Marianas Water squeezed out a 7-6 decision against the Black Ball.

IGUEL

From Page 28

yesterday.

Nakamura, against the Falcons, started for the Comets and he pitched four shutout innings with one hit, three strikeouts, and one walk. Teregeyo pitched in relief, giving up two runs on two hits with two strikeouts and two walks. Nakamura also went 3-for-4 in their win over the Falcons and was a home run short of hitting the cycle,

TINSEL

From Page 28

had supporters from both camps up on their feet, to lift her players' spirit.

"I could see frustrations from their eyes after we lost the lead, so I reminded them to keep their composure, play smart, and not rush things because the more we lose patience, the more we will commit silly mistakes. Right before they left the bench, I just

FIESTA

From Page 28

a layup and followed it up with four straight free throws, while Lerio Pagarao hit back-to-back baskets. Shirley's lone field goal in that slowdown was courtesy of Junar Guiab's drive on Troy Ngararois.

Shirley's never recovered from thereon, as Fiesta also won the next exchange with Pagarao still on target and Paul Quizon knocking in a couple of outsides shots. Pagarao paced Fiesta with his 20 points, while Esdrelon and Quizon chipped in 19 and 12, respectively.

In the second semis game, Douglas Schmidt made up for his absence in Kanoa's last game in the regular season by outscoring the entire *Saipan Tribune* team, as he exploded for 37 points in their semis win.

Schmidt made all kinds of baskets, causing problems to *Saipan Tribune's* defense all night. On offense, *Saipan Tribune* struggled without its main gunner DJay Ong and Mico Usi's team-high 16 points were not enough to keep the squad in the game against the defending champion.

Usi and Lester Lapuz nailed

multiple baskets early, as *Saipan Tribune* kept Kanoa within striking distance at the halfway mark of the first half, 13-18. However, Kanoa had a strong finish in the opening 20 minutes of play behind Schmidt to take a promising 32-19 halftime advantage.

Schmidt had 22 points in the first half, including 14 straight in that period and was still unstoppable in the second half to bring Kanoa back into the finals.

First Game

Fiesta Resort 77 — Pagarao 20, Esdrelon 19, Quizon 12, Ngararois 10, Demafelix 8, Francisco 5, Nonato 4, Matsutaro 2, Sedillo 1.

Shirley's 67 — Diaz 20, Guiab 15, Jugos 10, Laxa 8, Drilon 4, Metran 4, Bordon 4, Palma 2.

Scoring by halves: 38-33, 77-67.

Second Game

Kanoa Resort 58 — Schmidt 37, Bustillo 7, Francisco 6, Pablo 4, Encarnacion 4.

Saipan Tribune 36 — Usi 16, Lapuz 6, Galarion 6, J. Ong 4, Calibo 2, Edralin 2.

Scoring by halves: 32-19, 58-36.

2018 Coconut Tennis Classic

PHOTOS By ROSELYN B. MONROYO



Jeff Race returns a shot during his and Juncheol Hwang's mixed up doubles game against Vincent Tudela and Nason Wessel in the 2018 Coconut Tennis Classic held this month at the American Memorial Park tennis courts.



Robbie Schorr warms up before his and J.C. Ferrer's game against Jeff Race and Juncheol Hwang.



Helen Kim, left, and Tania Tan are all smiles after scoring a point against Sean and Ruma Lee.



Danny Jeoung reacts after a strong return.



Juncheol Hwang keeps his eye on the ball.



Vincent Tudela, left, hits a low shot, while teammate Nason Wessel looks on.



Ken Song serves during his and Isaac Heo's match against Malika Miyawaki and Danny Jeoung.



Malika Miyawaki makes a backhand return during her and Danny Jeoung's game against Isaac Heo and Ken Song.



Jags, Bortles agree to \$54M contract extension

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Durant leads Warriors rout of Thunder

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Iguel no-hitter lifts Braves; Comets win

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

Leveque Iguel pitched the first no-hitter of the season as the NSA Braves completed an 11-0 win over the Comets in the Seniors division of the Saipan Little League Baseball yesterday at the Francisco "Tan Ko" M. Palacios Ballfield.

The 2018 SLL season opened on Saturday with games in the Minors, Majors, Juniors, and Seniors divisions. The Minor and Major leagues were played at the Miguel "Tan Ge" Basa Panggelinan Ballfield.

Iguel pitched 1-2-3 in all five innings of the shortened

game, striking out 10 with no walks. He got some defensive help from his teammates with their fielders busy catching fly balls and collecting grounders. Iguel also went 3-for-4 at bat, with two runs and an RBI triple in the Braves' four-run scoring in the second inning. J.P. Celis backed him up, going 2-for-4 with two runs and an RBI double also in the second. Tyrese Camacho was 2-for-4, too, with a pair of runs and RBI singles.

JUNIOR LEAGUE
Comets 8, Falcons 3
Comets 14, Braves 2
Bing Nakamura and Reed



Teregeyo turned in solid performances over the weekend to help the Comets to a 2-0 start in the Juniors division.

Both starred in the Comets win over the defending champion Falcons last Saturday, and their lopsided victory against the NSA Braves

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JON PEREZ

Reed Teregeyo pitches for the Comets during their game against the NSA Braves in the Juniors division of the 2018 Saipan Little League Baseball yesterday at the Francisco M. Palacios Ballfield. Teregeyo was impressive in the Comets' twin wins over the weekend.



Tinsel Toes survives Betde



By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Tinsel Toes weathered Betde's second-half storm to eke out an 8-6 victory in their thrilling title showdown in the co-ed U12 division of Saipan Soccer School's 2018 Youth Futsal Tournament last Friday night at the TSL Sports Complex.

After moving ahead by four at the end of the first half, 5-1, Tinsel Toes folded up in the majority of the second before recovering in the nick of time

to avoid a monumental collapse and secure the division championship.

Markus Toves saved the day for Tinsel Toes, as he hit

back-to-back goals after Betde stole the lead, 6-5. Sean Gil then drilled the insurance in the final minute and change of the exciting finale to break Betde's heart.

Betde put on a gallant stand, working its way back into the game after Tinsel Toes dominated the first half. Gil knocked in a hat trick in the first half alone, while Ruben Guerrero and Toves added one goal apiece to give Tinsel Toes the advantage at the break. Tinsel Toes players were too aggressive on offense and a



ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Tinsel Toes' Markus Toves attempts for one of the two goals he scored in the second half to lift his squad to an 8-6 victory over Betde in the co-ed U12 division finals of Saipan Soccer School's 2018 Youth Futsal Tournament last Friday night at the TSL Sports Complex.

step ahead of Betde in running after the ball to set the tone in the finale.

Down, but definitely not out, Betde mounted a comeback in the second half behind Mark Roque, who delivered the lone goal for his squad in the opening 20 minutes of play. The diminutive striker fired four straight goals, toying around the defense of Tinsel Toes for force the first deadlock in the match, 5-5.

Betde kept going and this time was the more aggressive team. Its persistence both on offense and defense was then rewarded when Anthony Austria broke loose from his defender and hit a cross, giving Betde the upper hand for the first time, 6-5.

After Betde grabbed the driver's seat, coach Jovi Chavez called a timeout to give his wards a breather. Tinsel Toes coach Catherine Toves, on the other hand, used the lull at the 4:53 mark of the action-packed finale, which

See TINSEL on Page 26

Fiesta, Kanoa set finals rematch

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER



Kanoa Resort and Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan arranged a finals rematch after eliminating their respective semis opponents in the 2017 Tan Holdings Inter-Company Basketball League last Friday at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.

Fiesta marched into the title game first after ousting Shirley's Coffee Shop in the curtain-raiser, while Kanoa Resort earned the second finals berth after routing Saipan Tribune, 58-36. Kanoa and Fiesta met in the 2016 season finale with the former winning the deciding Game 2, 85-66, to foil the latter's bid for a

third straight championship.

Fiesta moved a win away from reclaiming the league title as it outgunned Shirley's in the final half of the second frame of their semis showdown. Shirley's was still in the thick of the fight behind by only 4, 53-57, when Fiesta went on a 10-2 scoring surge to open a 12-point advantage, 67-55.

Team captain Elmer Esdrelon started the run with

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Kanoa Resort's Moises De Arroz attempts an acrobatic shot against Saipan Tribune's Almond Edralin during their semis game in the 2017 Tan Holdings Inter-Company Basketball League last Friday at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.